Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-91-190
Tuesday
1 October 1991

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-91-190 1 October 1991

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Closing Speech at 20th PNC Session *[Algiers VOP]* 1
Al-Husayni: Baker Meeting in 'Next Few Days' *[Amman Radio]* 4

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

Brahimi Holds Talks With Baker, Arab Ministers *[APS]* 5
Another FIS Official in Saida Defects to FLN *[Algiers Radio]* 5

Egypt

'Text' of Foreign Minister Musa's UN Address *[MENA]* 5
Oman, Syria Help Contain 'Crisis' With Iran *[MENA]* 9
Editorial Calls For End to Threats Against Iraq *[AL-AHRAM 28 Sep]* 9

Tunisia

Reportage on Assassination Plot Against Ben Ali 10
Interior Ministry Accuses Ennahdah of Plot *[Tunis Radio]* 10
Ennahdah Movement Denies Accusations *[Paris International]* 12
Former Minister Denies Involvement in Plot *[Paris International]* 12
UGTT Urges Algeria To Act Against Terrorism *[Tunis Radio]* 13

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Saudi Arabia

Council of Ministers Discusses PNC, Bush Plan *[SPA]* 14
Reports on Tense Relations With U.S. Denied *[SPA]* 14

United Arab Emirates

Bush's Arms Plan 'Historic,' 'Courageous' *[AL-BAYAN 29 Sep]* 14

IRAQ

IAEA Spokesman on Nuclear Papers *[ADN]* 16
David Kay Holds Press Conference *[WAKH]* 16
Kay Asked To Halt Supply of Information to CIA *[INA]* 16
Saddam Addresses al-Ta'mim ... ...gation *[Baghdad Radio]* 17
Arab Students Denounce 'Suspect' U.S. Plans *[Baghdad Radio]* 20
National Assembly Team Leaves for IPU Meeting *[INA]* 21
Oil Minister, CSFR Envoy Discuss Cooperation *[INA]* 21
New Deportees From Kuwait Arrive 29 Sep *[INA]* 21
Barzani Briefs Kurds on Negotiations, Autonomy *[Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan]* 21
INA Reports al-Sulaymaniyah Speech 23
Talks Made 'Important' Progress *[INA]* 24

Saddam Said Omitting Karkuk From Autonomous Area *[Voice of Rebellious Iraq]* 24
Opposition Leader on Saddam, UN Resolutions *[Voice of Iraqi Opposition]* 24
Official: Democratic Change Coming to Kurdistan *[INA]* 25
SAIRI Sends Memo to Countries on 'Terror' *[Voice of Rebellious Iraq]* 25
'National Reform Movement' Established *[Voice of Iraqi Opposition]* 25
Report on Antiregime Operations *[Voice of Rebellious Iraq]* 25
Attacks Claimed Against Government Targets *[Voice of Rebellious Iraq]* 26

ISRAEL

Sources on U.S.-PLO Talks, Baker Contacts *[MA'ARIV 1 Oct]* 27
Shamir Demands Memorandum *[MA'ARIV 1 Oct]* 27
Shamir Opposes Early Elections Before Conference *[Jerusalem Radio]* 28
Labor Leaders Note Terms for Early Elections *[Jerusalem Radio]* 28
Construction Starts in Territories To Be Halved *[HADASHOT 1 Oct]* 28
Arens Expects U.S. To 'Give Up' on Settlement *[Jerusalem Radio]* 29
Shamir Briefs Likud Group Before Visit to Egypt *[HA'ARETZ 1 Oct]* 29
Egypt Said Violating Accord on Refugees Transfer *[HA'ARETZ 29 Sep]* 30
Palestinian Notables React to PNC Resolutions *[MA'ARIV 29 Sep]* 30
Chief of Staff on Iraq, Syria, Territories *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 29 Sep]* 31

JORDAN

U.S. Urged To Withdraw Weapons From Israel *[AL-RA'Y 1 Oct]* 35
Bush's Decision To Resume Aid to Amman Reported *[Amman Radio]* 35
Hope for New Relations Between Arabs, U.S. *[AL-RA'Y 28 Sep]* 35
King, 'Arafat Discuss PNC 'Positive Results' *[Amman Radio]* 35
Columnist Criticizes Arab 'Intellectuals' *[SAWT AL-SHA'B 30 Sep]* 36

LEBANON

Al-Murr Goes to Damascus To Discuss UN Visit *[VOM]* 37
Others Travel to Damascus *[Beirut Radio]* 37
Karami Holds News Conference on National Issues *[VOL]* 37
Hizballah Denies Returning Israeli MIA Bodies *[Beirut Radio]* 37

SYRIA

Al-Shar', al-Hirawi Discuss Resolution 425 *[Damascus Radio]* 38
Foreign Ministry on Israeli Golan Violations *[SANA]* 38
U.S. Cuts Highlight Israeli 'Aggressiveness' *[Damascus Radio]* 38
U.S. 'Credibility' at Risk Over Israeli Loan *[Damascus Radio]* 39
Arabs Urged To Exploit U.S.-Israeli 'Battle' *[Damascus Radio]* 39
Strong Arab Coordination for Conference Urged *[Damascus Radio]* 39
Israeli Plan To Call 'Early Elections' Assailed *[Damascus Radio]* 40
UK Official Thanks Qaddur for Hostage Release *[Damascus Radio]* 40

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Prime Minister Meets USSR's Pankin *[BAKHTAR]* 41
Meets With Officials in Bonn *[Kabul Radio]* 41
Senate Urges Talks With Mojahedin *[BAKHTAR]* 41
Rebels Report More Gains in Gardeyz Battle *[AFP]* 42

India

Prime Minister on Nuclear Treaty, Pakistan Ties *[Delhi Radio]* 43
Pawar Warns Pakistan Against Supporting Terrorism *[Delhi Radio]* 43

Jiang Zemin Appreciates Delhi's Attitude on Ties *[Delhi Radio]* 43
Indo-U.S. Trade Issue Differences Narrowing *[Delhi Radio]* 43

Iran

Khamene'i 27 Sep Friday Prayers Broadcast *[Tehran Radio]* 43
IRGC Official Addresses Defense Conference *[Tehran Radio]* 46
Logistics Minister Speaks *[Tehran TV]* 46
702 Prisoners Receive Reduced Sentences, Pardons *[Tehran TV]* 46
Oil Minister Assails EC Tax, Warns of Reaction *[Tehran Radio]* 46
Oil Minister on OPEC Production, Prices *[IRNA]* 46
Embassy 'Sources' Say Yang Shangkun To Visit *[Tokyo KYODO]* 47
Ahmad Khomeyni Comments on Domestic Issues *[Tehran Radio]* 47
Ground Forces Plans To Convert Iraqi Tanks *[IRNA]* 48

Pakistan

IJI Leaders on Kashmir, Afghan, Nuclear Issues *[Islamabad Radio]* 48
Afghan Mojahedin Leaders To Visit UN, Moscow *[Islamabad Radio]* 49
Sharif Welcomes Bush Move on Nuclear Weapons *[Islamabad Radio]* 49
Commentary on Need for Better Soviet Ties *[Islamabad Radio]* 49

Sri Lanka

LTTE Ally's Parliamentary Return Decried *[Delhi Radio]* 50
LTTE Members Reportedly Filling Parliament *[AFP]* 50
LTTE Makes Conditional Offer for Talks *[Delhi Radio]* 51
Minister Admits Supplying Arms to LTTE *[Delhi Radio]* 51
Security Forces Destroy Terrorist Bases *[Colombo International]* 51

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Closing Speech at 20th PNC Session

LD3009195291 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 30 Sep 91

["Text" of speech by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at the closing meeting of the 20th Palestine National Council, PNC, session in Algiers on 28 September—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We offered the trust to the heavens, and the earth, and the mountains, but they refused to carry it and were afraid of it; and man carried it. Surely he is sinful, very foolish. [Koranic verse]

Brother [Algerian] Prime Minister, struggler and Mujahid Ahmed Ghozali; [applause] brother Abdelaziz Belkhadem, speaker of the Algerian National People's Assembly, [applause] the democratic image of the similar Palestinian democracy; dear brother guests and ambassadors; sisters and brothers:

First allow me to offer salutations and pay tribute to the loyal martyrs of our people, the makers of the revolution, the intifadah, the makers of glory and history, and particularly their prince, my brother Abu-Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], the three martyrs Abu-Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Abu-al-Hawl [Hayil 'Abd-al-Hamid], and Abu-Muhammad, [applause] my beloved brother 'Abd-al-Rahim Ahmad, [applause] my brother struggler Brigadier General Hawwari, [applause] and my brother struggler 'Abd-al-Latif 'Uthman. [applause]

I also address myself on your behalf to our kinsfolk, to our friends, and to our masses inside the occupied territories as they join with you with their souls. They join with you with their opinions, their doctrine, their belief, their firmness, their blood, their agony, and their sufferings. They embrace, and they become giants to their jailers, whether from inside a small jail, or from inside a large jail, in our land, our Palestine, in our darling Palestine, Palestine, Palestine. [applause]

We tell them, we tell them, we say to the martyrs, all the martyrs, we say to our prisoners and our detainees, we say to our injured, we say to our children, the stonethrowing generals, the holy stonethrowing generals, we say to them the covenant, the covenant, the covenant. It is the covenant and the oath, and the oath, and the oath. It is the oath. God willing, we shall meet together on our beloved land, on the soil of Palestine, there, there, in holy Jerusalem, in holy Jerusalem, the first of the two qiblas and the third of the two [as heard] holy places; the point from which the Prophet Muhammad, prayers be on him, ascended to heaven, and the birthplace of Jesus Christ, prayers be on him, prayers be on him.

O my brothers, my dear ones; yes, O my brothers and my dear ones; O my kinsfolk, all my kinsfolk; O my friends, all my friends inside and outside Palestine, under occupation, and in the diaspora under occupation, and in the diaspora, we are destined to be the steadfast in this advanced holy position.

We were preordained to be the ones to stand firmly in this sacred advanced position. According to the honorable saying of the Prophet: A group of my nation are still preserving the faith and standing in the face of their enemy. None of their enemies will be able to harm them and they, God willing, will definitely emerge victorious. It was asked: Where are they? Who are they? He said: In Jerusalem and around Jerusalem. They will remain in position until doomsday.

My brothers, my family, and my friends, you are in position until doomsday. This is fate and it is an honor. It is fate and an honor. An honor for us to shoulder this difficult trust. It is the trust which the mountains were afraid of. The mountains refused to shoulder this trust and were afraid of it, but we shouldered it. We are shouldering the trust of this advanced position until doomsday.

Yes my brothers, this is our fate. This is our promise: to continue in that position.

My brothers, we are in this ocean and volcano that followed the Gulf events and the Gulf war, which led to the destruction of two fraternal Arab states and a siege upon our family—the people of Iraq—which is still continuing. In spite of this and in spite of the difficult circumstances, we call on our brothers and loved ones, the Maghreb leaders, to participate with all the good people of their Arab nation in pushing this Arab body forward to its original healthy status, and to its morals of which we are proud, so that we become an Arab nation worthy of living. The battle facing us is a battle for our existence. To exist or not to exist. Therefore the trust is difficult.

Also, I address my brothers in the Arab East. I say to them: Enough; enough; enough. Let us fold away the pages of what took place. What happened happened. What has been, has been. Let us fold away these pages in brotherhood, in this pan-Arab spirit, this Arab spirit which we have been accustomed to seeing throughout all the turmoil, all the crises, all difficult circumstances, and all the times which this nation has gone through. It is because of the challenges which are confronting us in the new world order; either we are part of this world order or we pay the price of this world order.

Before the assassination of my brother, former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, he said: The worst thing I fear is that this new order might be to order. [preceding sentence in English] New order to order. It means that it is a new world order which gives a voice to these peoples, the peoples of the Third World. It is because today the battle is North-South. This is a test, a test of this order. Will it deal with these peoples, the peoples of the Third World to order, or will it deal with them as part of this world order? That is: They have what is due to them and

they discharge their obligations on an equal basis. This is the challenge which is being raised. It is reflected most in the Middle East, in the heart of the Middle East, and the axis of the Middle East. The essence of the Middle East is the Palestinian issue. Does this world order want to use double standards—double balance and double criteria—or one criteria? In the Gulf, and the Baltic, and also in Palestine?

All right, we have been stating and debating inside this Council for some time during the past periods, as I told you, we have been debating for weeks and months. We have been positive. We did not hamper the peace steps. We did not object to President Bush's initiative, nor to that of President Gorbachev.

However, is there one measure for international legitimacy—the UN resolutions, and the resolutions of the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council? I would like to state—and may my brother prime minister and my brother the speaker of the Algerian People's Assembly hear me, let my brother guests and ambassadors hear me say this: We are stating the right to self-determination. Is it not an injustice to see that this right is still an issue that is being debated by those who say that we are now embarked upon a new world order? Fair enough, is it not the international legitimacy, applied to their ally Israel, the very international basis and legality, that stipulates the Palestinian state?

All right, when Truman recognized the Israeli state, he said that such recognition was based on Resolutions 194 and 181. I would like to call on President Bush to repeat what President Truman stated when he recognized the creation of this entity on our land. That was the historic injustice that befell us and which we have endured. Now they come and tell us whether or not we have a right to self-determination. This is a farce, by God Almighty this is a farce, my brothers.

It is true that yesterday or two days ago I positively received what was stated by President Bush following his audience with King Hassan II, when he mentioned the UN resolutions for the first time. During our debates here, we considered this statement as an advanced step because he said the words "the UN resolutions."

Then he said, for the first time President Bush uttered the words, "the Palestinian people," instead of, "the Palestinians." We considered this a step forward because as long as there is a people then the people should have land, and the people should have rights; the people should have political rights, national rights, and historical rights.

I am saying this because we are demanding that international legitimacy should have a single standard and not a double standard.

These are important words because no peace can be built on doing wrong to the peoples. Perhaps a temporary settlement could be built. One day at Camp David, when it was contracted, President Carter, President al-Sadat, and Begin stood up and said: No more wars after today. I would like to ask you: How many wars have occurred following Camp David? The last one was that destructive war which destroyed two Arab countries.

Therefore it is impossible to establish any peace except the Palestinian peace, the peace which takes into consideration the national political rights of the Palestinian people and these rights are embedded in its foundations.

Brothers, we are not demanding the impossible. We are demanding international legitimacy. We are not demanding the impossible. We are demanding international legitimacy. Is it not the right of our children, similar to children everywhere else in the world, to live freely on their free land? Or are our children from another species, different from the human species? Is there discrimination—racial discrimination—against our people? Why did the world celebrate, rebel, support, work, and struggle so that three states in the Baltic should obtain their independence? When Truman recognized Israel, he did so on the basis of Resolutions 181 and 194; do the Palestinian people not also have the right to a land?

Without an identity and without a nationality! Our children—our children! A Palestinian is a problem from the day he is born until he dies. Where does one register his birth? Where is he to be educated? Can he get married? How this people lives, how it obtains a passport, issues of residence, the pursuits and detention subjected against this people. What is more, when a Palestinian dies, I cannot find a place where I can bury him. There is not a place. Do you know this? Does President Bush know this? Do the U.S. people know? Is Europe aware that the Palestinian individual has no place where he can be buried?

I would like to tell you a true story. You all know Dr. Fa'iz al-Sayih. He was Kuwait's representative at the United Nations [as heard]. When he died, I spent five days looking for a proper place where I could bury him. Finally, I found what could be called a cemetery, which was attached to a church on the so-called [line between] East and West Beirut. Is that right, brother Mushsin Ibrahim? This church turned down our request for the burial, and we were forced to bury him under a hail of bullets. This is the Palestinian individual.

I would like to ask the new world and Europe, I would like to ask the United States and all these people who say new order: Is there not a place under this sun and in this world order for the 6.5 million Palestinians?

It is my right to state: Yes, a place will be found for this people in accordance with international legitimacy, in accordance with the Palestinian struggle and holy war, until the Palestinian flag flies on the walls of Jerusalem, on the minarets of Jerusalem, and on the churches of Jerusalem. [appaluse]

Blessed are these fighters; blessed are those who stand firmly in their positions; blessed is this tortured people

from Kuwait, to South Lebanon, to our occupied land; blessed is this people. Blessed are those dispersed everywhere, and blessed is this diaspora. We have a date, we have a date with the dawn and with victory. The creation of the state is a stone's throw away; this stone is being thrown by the Palestinian child. [applause]

I do not want to say more than this, but before I conclude my speech I want to thank my brother Abu-'Ali Mustafa. He insisted that he submit his resignation in order to be replaced by a fighter whom we hold in our esteem. He is Malluh. [applause] My brother George pleaded with me to consider the special circumstances that concerned my brother Abu-'Ali. I also thank my brother Abu-al-'Abbas because he said to me the day America broke off its dialogue for a reason.... [changes thought] He said to me: If I was the cause, Abu-'Ammar, here is my resignation. I told him: I cannot accept your resignation. Only the PNC can accept it. [applause] He chose to withdraw from the picture for the sake of Palestine. His brother came to replace him.

Also I address my two beloved brothers, 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, about whom I issued a decree before I came here so that he bears, along with me, the responsibility of overseeing the centers of the Palestinian planning and research, and also my other beloved brother Muhammad Milhim, about whom I issued another decree so that he supervises, along with his other brothers who are working at the Palestinian center of census and natural resources. I told them that the task is long, long, long. Wherever we may be, we are merely projects of martyrdom; all of us are projects of martyrdom. Apostle, rouse the believer to the fight. [Koranic verse]

We are projects of martyrdom. Whatever we do or wherever we go, we are projects of martyrdom. We move while our shroud for the grave is in our hand for Palestine; for Jerusalem, the land that was blessed by God. The farthest Mosque whose precincts we did bless in order that we may show Him some of our signs, for He is the One who heareth and seeth all things. [Koranic verse]

We are projects of martyrdom for the sake of this land.

Once again I say to you: The trust is enormous and the responsibility is great. You need two hands to clap. But with all our determination and all our efforts, we must shake off the dust of the battle, the dust of the crisis, the dust of the events, and rise like the Phoenix who rose from the ashes as a bigger giant, stronger, and more capable. This is the destiny of our people. The Palestinian Phoenix rises from the ashes a greater giant, stronger and more capable to confront the challenges, the difficult challenges.

My brother Ghozali, I beg you to convey to my beloved combatant brother President Chadli Bendjedid [applause] that we have never on past occasions managed to pay back what you have given to us. But this is not for the president, his government, and his people of 1.5 million martyrs; we are giving to you one thing. We are giving to you our souls to embrace your souls—the souls of the martyrs of Aures and the martyrs of Palestine. [applause]

I also extend my salute to my brother Zine al-Abidine and his people who are sheltering the PLO. Also I address all my brother Arab leaders, and say that this nation is in need of solidarity, unity, and a return to cohesion. This Arab nation is a great nation. It was honored by Almighty God in that He entrusted it with the Message, one Message after another. He entrusted it with these Messages. Hence, it should assume its place among nations.

That is why our Arab masses are looking at all their rulers, all their leaders, all their kings, and all their presidents, waiting for them to stand as one man—as one man—for the sake of the future of our Arab nation and its national security, and for the sake of preserving its existence and wealth.

By this I now move to my brothers who did not join this council. We say to them: We are firmly behind you. Our hands are in your hands. Our hearts are with your hearts. We will hold each other's hands. Whether you come or not we will follow you. Whether you come or not we will follow you. We are in the same boat. We have the same aim: Palestine and Jerusalem.

Brothers, I say these words again: The trust is huge and the responsibility is difficult. Since we launched in this hall the Palestinian peace initiative, we have been committed to peace. It is the peace of the brave, however, and it is not surrender. Therefore, we have rejected and we will reject the Israeli conditions. We will reject the Israeli conditions. We rejected them and we will reject them. Our hands are extended to establish the peace of the brave and not to surrender. Since 1988 we have launched the Palestinian peace initiative, together with the proclamation of our Palestinian state.

From here I say again: I know that the road is difficult and long. May God help us all on it. Not only the Executive Committee, the Central Committee, or the Palestine National Council, but may God help us all as a Palestinian people and as an Arab nation, and may God help all the free men, honorable men, and friends in the world, all those who love freedom, right, justice, and peace, a just peace.

Again I would like to say to my people, the heroic people of the intifadah: We have a date with you. Is the dawn not near?

In the name of God, the merciful, and compassionate: God hath purchased of the believers their persons and their goods; for theirs is the garden: They fight in His Cause, and slay and are slain: a promise binding on Him in Truth, through the Law, the Gospel, and the Koran; and who is more faithful to his covenant than God? Then rejoice in the bargain which ye have concluded: That is the achievement supreme. [Koranic verse] God has spoken the truth.

It is a revolution until victory, until victory, until victory.

Al-Husayni: Baker Meeting in 'Next Few Days'

JN0110065591 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 0400 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] We begin with the current contacts to fix a new date for the meeting between the U.S. secretary of state and the delegation of Palestinian personalities. We contacted Faysal al-Husayni at his residence in London for more details about the arrangements that are being made in light of the recent Palestine National Council [PNC] resolutions. Let us now listen to our interview with al-Husayni, conducted by colleague Muhammad al-Sharif.

[Begin recording] [Al-Sharif] Mr. Faysal al-Husayni, some Western circles consider you a mediator between the PLO and the PNC on the one hand and the U.S. Administration on the other. Our question here is on the PNC resolutions, which you were assigned with conveying to the U.S. Administration. What is your viewpoint toward these resolutions. Do you consider them enough at this stage?

[Al-Husayni] First, I would like to point out that it is impossible for us to assume the mediator role because we are part and parcel of the Palestinian people. As for the PNC resolutions, we believe that these resolutions have come at the appropriate time to define the Palestinian move in the next stage. I think they have provided answers to several questions that have been awaited by all.

[Al-Sharif] There is vagueness concerning the meeting that was scheduled between you and Mrs. Hanan 'Ashrawi on the one side and the U.S. secretary of state on the other. What is the truth concerning this issue? Has anything been fixed through your contacts with the U.S. Administration?

[Al-Husayni] In fact there should have been a meeting with Mr. Baker, but there was no fixed date for the meeting. There was a time span that this meeting was supposed to be held in. Now it seems that due to internal U.S. circumstances, the Americans asked us to delay this meeting for a few days. We believe that the meeting will very likely take place during the next few days, but so far the exact date has not been fixed.

[Al-Sharif] Will this meeting be held in the United States or the occupied territories?

[Al-Husayni] According to my impression, it will take place in the United States, unless there is a quick move by Mr. Baker to the inside [occupied territories]. Then the meeting will be held inside and not outside.

[Al-Sharif] In your view, Mr. Faysal al-Husayni, what is the next step after the PNC resolutions? How do you expect the shape of the Palestinian representation at the peace conference?

[Al-Husayni] The next step, in fact, is expected to come from the Americans concerning the letter of assurances which should reply to several points we raised. This reply, in fact, will allow the Executive Committee to practice its authority, provided by the PNC, concerning the peace process, including the makeup and shape of the Palestinian representation at this conference.

[Al-Sharif] Mr. al-Husayni, can you give us more information about the questions raised by the Palestinian side?

[Al-Husayni] In fact, we prefer to leave this issue for a few days until we receive the U.S. answers. We are not willing to give details which Israel may cause problems over, and subsequently raise several obstacles.

[Al-Sharif] Thank you, Mr. Faysal al-Husayni. [end recording]

Algeria

Brahimi Holds Talks With Baker, Arab Ministers

LD3009110291 Algiers APS in English 1018 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Algerian Foreign Minister Lakhdar Ibrahimi and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker had talks here Saturday that essentially centered on an exchange of views on the Middle East and on the latest developments in light of the meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC) held in Algiers, it was learned Saturday from Algerian diplomatic sources here.

Brahimi also conferred with the Italian foreign minister, Gianni de Michelis, with whom he mainly tackled the question of the forthcoming meeting in Algiers of the five Maghreb and four European foreign ministers. The two ministers also briefly tackled the questions included in the agenda of the UN General Assembly. They further exchanged views on efforts for the reconstruction of Lebanon, mainly the creation of a solidarity fund. The Algerian minister also exposed the question of the consequences of the maintaining of the embargo on the Iraqi people. The two ministers finally discussed the ongoing efforts for the holding of a peace conference on the Middle East and the results of the PNC meeting of Algiers.

In another development, Lakhdar Brahimi had talks with Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal. The two ministers mainly conferred on the latest developments on the Arab scene as well as peace efforts in the Middle East and Lebanon. Brahimi also took part in an Arab ministerial meeting. The meeting was chaired by M.F. Buwayz, Lebanese minister of foreign affairs and acting president of the Arab League Council of Ministers. It is worth noting that the ministers of foreign affairs of Syria, Egypt, Iraq, Bahrain, Tunisia, Morocco and Jordan as well as the Arab league secretary general were also present at this meeting. Eventually, the ministers listened during this meeting to an account on questions registered at the UN current general assembly.

Another FIS Official in Saida Defects to FLN

LD3009140991 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] The municipalities of Saida Province are witnessing the resignation of a large number of their officials. Today's new development was the resignation of the head of Oulad Khaled municipality in Saida Province and his joining the National Liberation Front [FLN]. The details are with Salem Dylani.

[Dylani] The resignation of the head of Oulad Khaled municipality from the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] and his joining the ranks of the FLN is still arousing conflicting reactions in Saida Province. We asked the head of the provincial people's assembly, who is from the FIS, about the matter, and he made clear to us that the FIS provincial executive bureau of Saida had not received any official notification from the person concerned. Meanwhile, responsible sources at the FLN have confirmed the aforementioned addition to its ranks.

The resignation of the head of Oulad Khaled municipality from the FIS and his return to the ranks of the FLN is the third case of this kind to take place in Saida Province—the heads of the Hounet and Hassasna municipalities also joined the ranks of the FLN—thus bringing the number of FLN-controlled municipalities in the province to 10 out of 16, and reducing the number of Islamic municipalities from nine to six.

Can we say then that the return of the head of Oulad Khaled municipality to the ranks of the FLN constitutes a stab in the back of the activists of the Islamic Front and its provincial executive bureau, which did not issue a statement of no-confidence in this case as it did with the head of Hassasna municipality, particularly now when the leadership of the Islamic Front is experiencing a difficult time? Or was the switch out of a belief in the principles of the FLN, its long experience, and its popularity, especially in the Oulad Khaled area, bearing in mind that this area had been chosen in the old constituency law as an electoral constituency?

Egypt

'Text' of Foreign Minister Musa's UN Address

NC3009111691 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0708 GMT 30 Sep 91

["Text" of speech by Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa to the UN General Assembly on 30 September]

[Text] United Nations, New York, 30 Sep (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has called on the international community to support the convening of a Middle East peace conference, urging it to move from the stage of consultation over holding this meeting to the stage of actual negotiation. Musa called on all parties to support the land-for-peace principle, the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, and security for all.

In his statement to the UN General Assembly today, Musa praised U.S. President George Bush's initiative to hold a Middle East peace conference under the aegis of which direct negotiations would be conducted on the basis of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and the land-for-peace principle.

The statement strongly denounced Israel's continued building of settlements in occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, saying that this is an illegal activity that violates legitimacy. He warned of the damage this Israeli policy will have on the prospects of Middle East peace. Musa reiterated President Mubarak's call to halt the settlement program in return for ending the Arab boycott of Israel.

The statement urged Israel to stop these practices and policies immediately and to embark on real measures to shore up the currently shaken trust among the various parties so that the peace process might be undertaken in an appropriate climate. Musa called for concerted international efforts to lay down the foundations of peace and stability in areas of tension worldwide on the basis justice, legitimacy, and the rule of law.

The foreign minister expressed Egypt's pleasure at the historic initiative U.S. President George Bush announced to the world at dawn on 28 September: That the United States is relinquishing its short-range nuclear weapons. He added that Egypt feels confident that this initiative will meet with positive international reactions, saying that Egypt also hopes that the initiative will produce results on the regional level in the sphere of banning the proliferation of nuclear weapons, particularly in areas of conflict such as the Middle East.

In this connection, the Egyptian statement emphasized the importance of President Husni Mubarak's initiative to eliminate weapons of mass destruction from the Middle East and the need for this initiative to include all parties without exception. The statement called on Israel to join the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and to submit all its nuclear installations to a system of comprehensive guarantees.

In the statement, 'Amr Musa reviewed a number of important international issues, notably human rights, environmental problems, Third World debt, the establishment of a new international economic order, and assisting Africa eliminate the problems of backwardness, poverty, and disease.

Musa discussed relations between developing countries that possess resources, capabilities, and energies and developed countries that possess achievements, expertise, and scientific abilities. He submitted three principles that represent the Egyptian view of what the relations between the two groups should be:

1. The nonaligned movement should be merged with the Group of 77 to form a new single movement of Third World countries.

2. Real and practical support should be given to the UN role in international relations in order to enhance its executive ability, develop UN mechanisms such as an apparatus to preserve international peace and security, and to implement its resolutions that express the will of international legitimacy.

3. A close relationship and interdependence should be forged between regional and international security.

Herewith the text of 'Amr Musa's address to the UN General Assembly today:

The current session is being held when the UN is in the middle of the fifth decade of its eventful life, a life that had moments of victory as well as of failure; moments of fulfilling the great hopes of those who had historic visions for a new and secure world, as well as moments of repeated disappointments and frustrations in carrying out the noble intentions contained in the UN Charter for building new life for nations and peoples.

There are moments and events in the life of nations and peoples that are in truth great turning points that we might not be able to comprehend because we are part of it. What has happened in our international life in the past few months and is still happening is by any objective standard a new birth in international relations, something that will have to reflect on the work, organization, and performance of the UN.

The world we are living in today is steadily coming closer to becoming that great vision of the founding member states, when the UN peoples took it upon themselves to rescue coming generations from the perils of war and to reaffirm their faith in basic human rights; individual dignity; and equal rights for men, women, nations, and peoples.

Mr. President: The contents of the secretary general's report submitted to this session confirm our confidence in the true potential of the UN to take the world to new levels of peace, stability, and security for everyone. The world can, through the United Nations, firmly establish the provisions of the charter perhaps for the first time in the history of our organization, using the mechanisms of collective security to deter aggression and restore international peace and security. This could serve as a model to be followed and a point of reference to go back to in complying with international legitimacy under various situations and conflicts, no matter how different their locations or backgrounds may be.

There is much talk nowadays, Mr. President, about the dawn of a new world order that could consolidate the pillars of the current order, which were established more than 50 years ago, and that could establish new foundations and more developed patterns. This is particularly true since the nations and peoples of this century have paid a heavy price in trial and error trying to ensure that the vision charted out in San Francisco will not be a mere wish or dream. We believe rather that legitimate human hopes can be achieved and were only kept from the world by the shackles and chains that tied human freedoms, curbed the talents, and hampered man's creative powers. In a matter of a few months time, the totalitarian regimes collapsed in theory and practice giving rise to waves of intellectual, political, and economic freedoms. The regimes of racism, arrogance, and discrimination will soon be gone so that progress might be generalized to please people worldwide.

Mr. President, Egypt—that ancient homeland, as old as history itself which lived the dawn of human civilization and on its territory human creative abilities were unleashed—has sensed from afar the waves of change and was, in fact, among the first countries to predict, and even contribute, to them. Egypt, a founding member of this order governing us, will contribute with an open

mind and an enlightened sense in establishing the pillars of the new world after having contributed in the past decades, through its pioneering role in the nonaligned movement, to working to bring about a world free of cold war, divisions, and polarization; a world in which freedoms are secured for humans.

The world that we see with the eyes of our ancient civilization and modern hopes is one in which democracy and human rights will triumph, providing basic guarantees for stability; a world based on equality in rights and duties and shared decisionmaking.

The order whose components we are trying to establish is not the responsibility of a state or a group of states, but is the responsibility of everyone in the North and South as well as in the East and West. It should be in everyone's interest to safeguard the rights of all. This means for us that the world, with its peoples and states, should stand on the correct side of history; that is, to stand on the side of justice, legitimacy, and the rule of law. These are indispensable matters if we are to establish the basis of peace, security, and stability.

The awakening in the world today strongly shows the nations' aspirations to assert themselves, exercise their national rights, and seek new forms of political life that will achieve what is right and just for all the peoples without discrimination. Human rights know no race, color, or religion, and are not the monopoly of one nationality or people. This is exactly what must be meant by the new world order, whose features are being formed. The practical translation of all this is inherent in the concert of international efforts to establish the foundations of peace in the Middle East, South Africa, Afghanistan, and other areas of tension. Fortunately, they all depend on persistent efforts to achieve progress toward a settlement.

Mr. President, the Middle East has witnessed during the past few months, and continues to witness, constant efforts to promote the peace process and move it from consultations to negotiations, which is undoubtedly a delicate stage that requires patience, vision, and the ability to overcome obstacles, dispel doubts, and close gaps. It also demands sincere political will and genuine good intentions that would open the way and not impede the freedom of movement. I would like to praise the U.S. initiative launched by President Bush to convene a Middle East peace conference in which direct negotiations would take place on the basis of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the principle of land for peace.

The current major international developments—the Arab-Israeli conflict and its core, the Palestinian issue—have entered a new stage consistent with the international trend to settle crises through dialogue and negotiations based on respect for international legitimacy, the principles of international law, and the provisions of the UN Charter, and utilizing the firm inclination to respect the will of peoples aspiring for freedom, independence, respect of human rights, and dignity.

Therefore, we look forward to the creation of an atmosphere devoid of threats and preemptive actions that jeopardize a future settlement. With all honesty and responsibility we affirm that the continued adoption of measures that destroy confidence and spread despair could increase movement in a vicious circle for years to come in which the elements of instability will interact to keep the Middle East an extreme hotbed of tension and an area of continuous confrontation.

Therefore, the continuation of the policy of building settlements in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories will damage the prospects of peace in an attempt to perpetuate an illegal fait accompli that is a violation of law and legitimacy. Israel's continued establishment of settlements will break the principle of land for peace, undermine the letter and spirit of Resolution 242, and repudiate international legitimacy. There is no doubt that you still recall President Husni Mubarak's appeal for a halt to the establishment of settlements in return for ending the boycott measures. This initiative is still valid, and I reaffirm it today. A serious commencement on peace demands an immediate halt to such practices and policies and beginning genuine measures to build the shaken confidence among the various parties so that the peace process can take place in a suitable and appropriate climate.

We are passing through a delicate stage that requires political will and courage. Therefore, we call on all nations to support the convening of the peace conference and negotiations, which will take place within its framework. We urge everyone to support the principle of land for peace, the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people, and security for all.

The will of the world which stood behind international legitimacy during the Gulf crisis, defending and dictating it, is called upon to understand the complex Middle East situation and to place it in correct perspective to establish justice and legitimacy.

Mr. President, we have learned many lessons from the Gulf crisis not least of which is that economic unity is closely associated with security cooperation and that security must be accorded serious consideration within the framework of regional and international legitimacy. Proceeding from this premise, eight Arab countries agreed in the Damascus Declaration to begin joint security arrangements between the Arab Gulf countries and Egypt and Syria. This derives from the charters of Arab action and seeks to establish security in a dear part of the Arab land on new foundations of agreement, understanding, and on the basis of a firm insistence that the grievous error that occurred when Iraq invaded Kuwait must not be repeated. It was an error that struck a serious blow at Arab order and nearly undermined the international order itself.

On this basis we assert that Gulf security is part of Arab security and Arab security is part of international security. It is necessary to emphasize the agreement and integration between regional and international legitimacy.

Today's world is different from the world of the past. The international community is actively moving toward new, wide, and developed horizons. In such a situation no particular region must isolate itself and pursue variant policies or separate itself from international facts by burying its head in the sand and believing that it is immune from blame or questioning.

Furthermore, the security issue is linked with arms control and disarmament, which is an international process with regional repercussions. The elimination of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East has become necessary. In this connection, Mr. President, I wish to reiterate the Egyptian initiative announced by President Husni Mubarak calling for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, chiefly nuclear weapons, from the region.

Mr. President, the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, which is the ideal way of ensuring the region's security, cannot be carried out except within an integrated and comprehensive framework that applies to all parties without exception or distinction. It will rectify imbalances and eliminate differences in the types, quantities, and standards of weapons. We, in Egypt, are not living in isolation from previous and current historic disarmament measures.

We also realize that these measures could not be carried out until the political climate changed, dialogue replaced confrontation, cooperation replaced conflict, and mutual trust displaced suspicion. In this connection our region has its special status and a political reality that we cannot circumvent but must change through responsible action by all parties—without exception. The first responsible action representing a step toward building trust would be Israel's joining the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and submitting all its nuclear installations to a system of comprehensive guarantees.

Mr. President, the important and historic step announced by President George Bush a few days ago that the United States will relinquish its short-range nuclear missiles deserves the utmost appreciation and welcome because of its far-reaching significance and effects in the sphere of arms limitation and disarmament and because of the strong impetus it has given to the new world order.

Egypt is confident that this initiative will be received positively in the international arena. It also hopes that it will have regional effects in prohibiting the proliferation of nuclear weapons in areas of conflict such as the Middle East.

Mr. President, the UN has affirmed and renewed confidence in its charter and mechanisms through the Security Council in its dealings with crises last year and this year and consolidated its role in preserving and making peace and in restoring credibility to the system of collective security. Undoubtedly, the success and efficiency of the organization in laying down the bases of settlements in Africa, Asia, Central America, and even Europe depend entirely on historic reconciliations among factions on the basis of respect for principles of international law, democracy, and human rights through dialogue, negotiations, accommodation, and the adoption of peaceful ways for the settlement of disputes. We cannot forget that a major factor in settling various disputes was the spread of a favorable atmosphere for democratic practices and the abrogation of the despicable distinctions of racist discrimination. In this respect, we call on South Africa to completely renounce the apartheid system and all its pillars so that a sound and healthy relationship might be established with it and the world community might consider lifting sanctions against it.

Mr. President, if we really want to establish a just foundation for tomorrow's world, the international community needs to conduct a comprehensive review of international economic affairs. This review should be carried out with a sense of reality and dialogue and with a spirit of shared responsibility and coordinated collective work to reach a general framework of overall economic policies that can regain a balanced growth to world economy, boost development in the developing countries, and emphasize the need for the Third World's participation as a genuine and active partner in the responsibilities and rights of building the new world order. In order to do that, we first need to keep the following fundamental considerations before us in a spirit of common responsibility:

1. Africa, which comprises one-fourth of the world's area and that will house approximately one-fifth of the world's population by the end of this century, is facing a serious situation—the repercussions of which go beyond the boundaries of that continent. History will hold us accountable if we move into the 21st century while a continent with such resources remains burdened by backwardness and poverty, losing millions of its children to disease and malnutrition. It will remain a discredit to our world that no matter how prosperous some parts of it are, there is still in Africa, and elsewhere, a poor world.

We look forward that our sense of responsibility will reflect in our review and assessment of the work program concerning the economic situation in Africa. In this respect, the secretary general's report provides a good basis for action, and we hope we will be able to use the data and proposals of that report to find serious ways to begin Africa's recovery from backwardness and poverty.

2. The international economic order is about to witness important changes in the course of forming huge economic groupings in the north and the modest attempts to set up regional economic groupings in the south, as well as the ongoing radical changes in the eastern part of Europe and the Soviet arena. The greater part of the

Third World is plagued by the burdens of debt, shortage of financial and technical resources, imbalance of economic structures, social disorder, declining development rates, and unfavorable international trade terms—thus weakening the entire world market.

In general, the uneven world economy threatens to cause disturbances that require international political will and responsible economic policies to remedy the ailing parts of the international economy before they affect the healthy parts.

3. The human rights issue has become a basic issue on the international agenda. There is no disagreement today between advanced countries and developing ones on the need to respect human rights on the domestic and international levels and the commitment of countries to guarantee individual basic liberties regardless of where he lives, or his ethnic, religious, or political identity. Nevertheless, human rights cannot be dealt with in isolation from a human being's daily living conditions and the future that awaits future generations. Here lies the direct link between human rights and economic and social development. It is an equation that will only become complete when its two components are coordinated within a framework that involves international relations as a whole.

4. Solutions to worldwide environmental problems must be attained through international cooperation and in a framework that takes into account the requirements of development in the developing countries. It is necessary that any measures taken to protect the environment guarantee that assistance is provided for economic and social development activities in developing countries.

We hope that the UN environment and development conference, to be held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, will represent the beginning of a comprehensive international effort and collective action to protect the environment and achieve development. Comprehensive development cannot be achieved unless we pay sufficient attention to human development, notably child care, and implement the provisions of the international declaration made by the summit conference on childhood.

Mr. President, if the new world order is to establish political and economic stability, it must rely on a close interaction between the developing nations which possess capabilities, energies, resources, and a fertile heritage and the advanced world which has achievements, contributions, expertise, and scientific progress. This must be a balanced and equitable interaction in which progress, coordination, and mutual interests go hand in hand.

Mr. President, from this perspective and integrated program for international relations, Egypt submits its view of a framework linking the goals, causes, and interests of the developed and developing world.

1. Egypt calls for inaugurating a joint framework and forum that would combine the Nonaligned Movement with all the developing countries known as the Group of 77 in view of the similar interests, goals, and priorities of both groups. They would form a new, single movement of the Third World under the aegis of the new world that is emerging in the last decade of the 20th century.

2. Egypt calls for giving real and practical support to the UN role in the new international relations by enhancing its executive effectiveness, developing its mechanisms such as an apparatus to preserve international peace and security, and implementing its resolutions which express the will of international legitimacy.

3. Egypt asserts that regional security and international security are closely associated and interdependent, both when they are stable and when they are shaken, in light of the fact that geography is no longer a major factor in security. Geography no longer separates one region from another or guarantees security for one country but not another. The possession of isolated force by some parties does not guarantee peace for everyone.

Mr. President, the order which has begun to emerge in our contemporary world will not be an order in which the parts repel each other or move in different directions north, south, east, and west but will certainly be an order in which the parts attract and regions and countries—large and small, advanced and developing—grow closer together in a closer framework and a deeper relationship for the sake of integrated security, comprehensive peace, equitable justice, and balanced, continuous development.

Mr. President, if we are sincere in our resolve, the new world order will be the beginning of a new history for humanity. That is how it should be.

Oman, Syria Help Contain 'Crisis' With Iran

NC3009083991 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0613 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Cairo, 30 Sep (MENA)—Informed diplomatic sources have said that Omani and Syrian mediation has helped contain the crisis between Egypt and Iran. The first step has been the cessation of media campaigns between the two countries. In today's edition, AL-AKHBAR quotes these sources as saying that a meeting of Egyptian and Iranian experts is expected in Cairo soon and that this will pave the way for a meeting between the two countries' foreign ministers.

Editorial Calls For End to Threats Against Iraq

NC3009155391 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 28 Sep 91 p 7

[Editorial: "Who Should Be Searched: Iraq or Israel?"]

[Text] The search for Iraqi weapons and strategic positions has recently given rise to tension between Baghdad and Washington. The United Nations, backed by the United States, wants to use its own planes to search for Iraqi positions and take aerial photos of any site in Iraq

without any Iraqi supervision or participation. Iraq rejected this at first, but then relented while demanding that an Iraqi officer join the international team during its flight over the Iraqi positions—which were not to include Baghdad to ensure that the international search operations were not being used for any purposes that would harm the security of the Iraqi homeland, people, and state. Iraq then completely backed down in the face of U.S. threats and said that it would allow the UN planes to do whatever they want.

The humiliation that Iraq has suffered in these events and the dangers threatening its security, both now and in the future, are the bitter result of the expansionist ambitions, aggressive tendencies, and miscalculations that have characterized the Iraqi regime's policies. The superpowers and the Security Council nevertheless should stop making threats to use military force against Iraq and should desist from humiliating it in a way that threatens stability in the region and upsets the Arabs, including those who strongly opposed the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait.

The Security Council and the United States' interest in eliminating all weapons of mass destruction must include Israel, the sole nuclear power in the region. As for Iraq, it has lost most of its conventional weapons in addition to its unconventional ones. It has also accepted all conditions that have been imposed on it, and now there is nothing left to disarm.

Tunisia

Reportage on Assassination Plot Against Ben Ali

Interior Ministry Accuses Ennahdah of Plot

LD2809234191 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2100 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Following what had been announced concerning the involvement of the so-called Ennahdah Movement in conspiring to seize power by resorting to violence and terrorism, Interior Minister Abdallah Kallel revealed, at a briefing held in the Constitutional Democratic Rally [CDR] House this afternoon, the latest developments and details of the ramifications of the bloody infernal conspiracy which was planned by the so-called Ennahdah Movement, with the aim of pouncing on power and changing the political regime of the country. This meeting was attended by the members of the CDR Political Bureau, led by Hamed Karoui, prime minister and deputy chairman of the Rally; the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies; members of the government; a number of members of the CDR Central Committee; and CDR cadres.

At the beginning of the meeting, Abdallah Kallel said that the meeting dealt with a fateful issue concerning not only the regime but also the Tunisian society as a whole, as chosen by all Tunisians in freedom and democracy. He added that at a time when President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali was engaged in his persistent work of examining large and diversified files concerning the homeland and citizens in order to build a democratic state founded on freedom, justice, and human rights, as well as making the Tunisian citizen happy and helping him in his daily life with support and care, the group of terrorists belonging to the so-called Ennahdah Movement was planning to sabotage the country, kill people, destroy the pillars of civil society, trample the state of law and institutions, and undermine and trifle with liberties.

He pointed out that everyone remembered the sinister conspiracy hatched by this group to seize power and undermine the advanced society in Tunisia, and how this movement was bracing itself to realize its objectives by setting up a special and secret organ in its organizational structure, in implementation of their slogan: There is no ideology without force.

The interior minister recalled that this special organ was founded on two elements: first, the intelligence section, which was based on getting plants in the political, administrative, security, and military organs of the state; second, the strike force, which relies on armed and trained groups. He explained that the plan prepared by these people, and which was already uncovered, consisted of five stages, and they had reached the end of stage four. They intended to implement stage five in the period between June and October, according to confessions made during the investigations of those arrested.

Abdallah Kallel added that, despite the success of the internal security forces, thanks to their devotion to duty and sacrifices in uncovering and foiling this octopus-like conspiracy, a small number of those implicated are still on the run. Some of them have gone into hiding inside the country, and some of them fled to Algeria, which they have used as one of the most important of their bases from which to launch the attempt to carry out these vile acts.

He pointed out that the security forces had hunted the fugitive elements all summer long and managed to arrest a number of them in August. He noted that investigations had confirmed categorically that, despite the uncovering of the conspiracy, the terrorist movement was still present and seeking to realize its objective of undermining the regime by resorting to acts of violence and terrorism.

He stressed that after the conspiracy was uncovered, the terrorist members of this movement held a meeting to prepare an alternative plan—they called it the extraordinary plan—which in fact is a continuation of the first plan, but with new methods. He added that the details of this plan were given clearly by those who were arrested, and he explained that this plan was based on three targets:

1. Causing a constitutional or political vacuum in the country, because they believed that the regime was strong and that President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali enjoyed the confidence of the people in all sections. In

order to achieve this first target, they decided to assassinate President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and a number of ministers holding sensitive posts—the prime minister, the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, and the ministers of the interior, justice, and defense—in order to create a complete vacuum in the governmental apparatus.

In the same line, they planned for the assassination of a number of senior officials of the Interior Ministry.

2. Creating a state of disarray and confusion throughout the country with action in the regions where the elite [terrorist] groups are located, which are trained in the use of firearms and explosive charges, in attacks against the centers of sovereignty [headquarters of local authorities], and in cutting off electricity and water supplies and blocking vital roads.

3. Politically exploiting this chaotic situation by setting up a transitional government that they called provisional, including, in the first place, the leading elements of the so-called Ennahdah movement. And, in order to mislead, the planners decided to bring in some other symbols such as [former Prime Minister] Mohamed Mzali, and [former Economy Minister] Ahmed Ben Salah.

Abdallah Kallel pointed out that the details of this vile sabotage scheme were admitted by those who had hatched it, and they belonged to the so-called Ennahdah movement and took their orders directly from the named Rachid Ghannouchi, the leader of the movement, and the named Mohamed Ben Salem, the general-supervisor of the movement after the arrest of Sadok Chourou. He added that these leading elements were in Algeria. They were contacted for orders and directives through persons who travel to Algeria by legal and illegal means.

The minister affirmed that the security services had irrefutable evidence that the group had already gone through many phases in the material preparations for carrying out the plan in its three stages and objectives. He said that the material preparations for the implementation of this plan, the extraordinary plan, began at three levels:

First: The organizational level, with the appointment of the named Mohamed Ben Salem as a new supervisor of the movement in lieu of Sadok Chourou. The terrorist Mohamed Ben Salem, who fled to Algeria some time ago, had worked in the organization of the movement and the preparation of elite terrorist groups who would undertake suicide operations and would be equipped with weapons and instruments of destruction either made in Tunisia or brought in from abroad.

Second: At the level of creating a political or constitutional vacuum, with the preparation of a plan for the assassination of the head of state, some ministers, and a number of senior Interior Ministry officials.

Concerning the first element, i.e. the assassination of the head of state, the terrorists had studied several plans, including the undertaking of a suicide attack in one of the places where the head of state is to be found on official occasions, such as the Tunis-Carthage International Airport, the Conference Hall, or Dar El Maghrebia [Guest House in Salamboo, near Tunis, where foreign guests dine]. They abandoned this plan since its success was not guaranteed, and they chose a second plan: blowing up the plane carrying the head of state on an official trip.

Abdallah Kallel pointed out that, at the beginning, these terrorists had been thinking about carrying out their criminal operations during the visit of the head of state to China this last April. He added that the implementation of such an operation required the use of sophisticated weapons. The plotters, for this purpose, thought about obtaining a U.S.-made Stinger missile. They preferred this type to other missiles, given its precision in hitting its target.

The so-called Mohamed Chammam undertook to provide this weapon due to his strong connections with the circles of the Afghan mojahedin. He was also to train the team charged with the field execution of the operation.

The minister said the so-called Hedi Ben Ahmed Ghali, an activist in the movement and a renegade who was tried in 1981 and 1987 and pardoned after the change in government, undertook the planning to implement this operation. The minister explained in this regard, saying: The so-called Hedi Ghali had contacted two specialists in the use of weaponry—namely Captains Abdelhamid Addassi and Ridha Tounsi—who stood for trial within the framework of the security group and were pardoned in 1988. Thereafter they worked toward solving the problem of acquiring the technical information relevant to the journey, such as flight coordinates. The plotters succeeded in finding the required element, the so-called Mohieddine Ferjani, the air controller at the airports authority.

The minister added that the group continued to await the arrival of the goods; namely, the aforementioned missile that was to be smuggled across the Tunisian-Algerian border. Terrorist Mohamed Chammam had fixed 15 October as the date for carrying out this criminal operation.

Regarding the assassination of some ministers, the terrorists had charted their routes of movement, their residences, the times at which they went to their offices, and the positions of guards and their reliability in confronting the specialized commando teams charged with the execution of this terrorist operation.

Third: Concerning the preparation of financial means, or what the terrorist group named the element of financial capability, in the areas to disturb the country's general situation and paralyze movement in the regions, the interior minister said: The terrorists belonging to the so-called Ennahdah Movement had planned to gather

and make available means of subversion and violence at a number of places in the country. According to the confessions of those detained, they provided ammunition and weapons of greater violence and destructibility than the Molotov cocktail.

After recalling the weapons and ammunition cache discovered recently in Ben-Arous governorate, Abdallah Kallel explained that the security forces last week carried out large-scale campaigns in which they uncovered a new weapons hideout in Sfax. There were qualitatively more advanced weapons than those uncovered in Ben-Arous. He made clear, in this respect, that the captured weapons consisted of pistols fitted with silencers and locally manufactured rifles similar to the military Mozer rifles, in addition to a number of time-bombs specially made for blowing up headquarters and cars, and hand grenades similar to those found in Ben-Arous.

The interior minister noted that all means of destruction, sabotage, and killing were prepared by the terrorists with premeditation to achieve the third aim: political exploitation of the results of the hideous criminal plot whose elements were uncovered.

Abdallah Kallel indicated that this bloody plot, which according to material and absolute evidence implicated the so-called Ennahdah Movement, emphasizes the deeply-rooted nature of this movement that does not refrain from killing people, including the symbol of sovereignty President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, who saved the country, injected new hope into citizens, and promised a plan for a new society that he keeps realizing daily.

He added that what had been discovered reflects once again the innate intention of these terrorists to pounce on power and overthrow the regime by all means available. He expressed regret that such people could find support from those who allow them to reside in their countries and use them as a base for plotting to destroy Tunisia, or those who help them by financing their terrorist plans.

Following the uncovering of the hideous and base aspects of the plot, the minister expressed his conviction regarding Tunisians'—and at their forefront the CDR members—full vigilance and absolute determination to uproot the saboteurs. He indicated that the security apparatuses, which have been and still are pursuing their work with competence and devotion to bar the way of the plotters and disclose their bloody plans, deserve all gratitude and praise for the efficiency and loyalty they have shown regarding the homeland and its achievements.

Abdallah Kallel also stressed his conviction that the whole civil society, including all its walks of life and strata, will renew its clear position regarding this baseless and bloody scheme by facing up to those behind it, because they oppose the gains of the national community and plot to destroy the foundations of the civil and democratic society that all Tunisians have chosen for themselves.

Following the statement of the interior minister, two videotapes were shown that included detailed confessions of four terrorists that have been arrested. These confessions were compatible with the statements issued by Abdallah Kallel. The four terrorists whose confessions had been shown are: Ridha Saidi, Taoufik Zairi, Nejib Gharbi, and Hedi Ahmed Ghali.

Ennahdah Movement Denies Accusations

LD3009201891 Paris Radio France International in French 1830 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Excerpt] In Tunisia, the fundamentalist Ennahdah movement today denied accusations by the authorities that the movement was planning to assassinate President Ben Ali in October. These are pure lies, said Ennahdah President Rachid Ghannouchi in a communique issued in Paris. [passage omitted]

Former Minister Denies Involvement in Plot

LD2909173191 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Interview with former Tunisian Economy Minister Ahmed Ben Salah by correspondent Farida Ayari; date and place not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted]

[Ben Salah] Everything is false: The democracy is false, the plots are false. There is nothing true, nothing regular, nothing legitimate in the present situation.

[Ayari] How do you explain that the Tunisian Government links your name and the name of former Prime Minister Mzali to this plot theory?

[Ben Salah] You know I have been persecuted in Tunisia for the past 21 years; it is not much different, but they never went so far as to imagine an involvement in such adventures. I protested against the massacre of students and others and signed a protest to that effect at the time, and from there one makes deductions.

[Ayari] Did you sign a protest side by side with Mr. Ghannouchi, who is the leader of Ennahdah [Tunisian fundamentalist movement]?

[Ben Salah] Why not? It does not disturb me; it does not mean anything more than protests against massacres.

[Ayari] Do you believe that this is the reason they now associate you with this plot?

[Ben Salah] They can say what they want, but I do not believe that there was a plot. There was a struggle by Ennahdah to occupy part of the political stage; there is also a struggle for a total elimination, not only of

Ennahdah, but of the whole of the opposition. The rest is intended to muddle the issue.

UGTT Urges Algeria To Act Against Terrorism

LD0110073291 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2100 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Following the unveiling of the latest plans of the so-called Ennahdah Movement to seize power through the creation of a constitutional vacuum, the General Union of Tunisian Workers [UGTT] Executive Bureau today issued a statement, which noted in particular:

The UGTT, which has always stood at the forefront of the militant national forces for the liberation of the country and for building a developed civilian society on the basis of upholding liberties, justice, democracy, and human rights as sacred issues, can only express its strong condemnation and utter denunciation of these terrorist practices and of all the plotters and those who provide support and backing for their perpetrators.

The statement added that the UGTT Executive Bureau, after recalling the historic ties, the joint struggle, and the one destiny of the Maghreb countries in general, and Tunisia and Algeria in particular, call on the Algerian Government with all insistence to take the necessary and required measures to put an end to the terrorists' use of Algerian soil to execute their schemes inside our country and plot against it.

The Bureau stresses the need not to open the way for anyone to harm the brotherly relations existing between the two fraternal peoples and countries. At the same time, it calls on brothers inside the General Union of Algerian Workers to take the necessary measures in this connection.

Saudi Arabia

Council of Ministers Discusses PNC, Bush Plan

LD3009185191 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1630 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 30 Sep (SPA)—King Fahd Bin 'Abd-al-Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, presided over a Council of Ministers meeting today at Al-Salam Palace in Jeddah. Information Minister 'Ali Hasan al-Sha'ir made the following statement to SPA after the meeting:

At the gracious direction of the king and within the framework of the continual follow-up of events and developments, the Council first listened to a summary of political and news reports relating to the most prominent developments in both the Arab and international arenas, with the Palestinian question at the forefront.

In light of the decision adopted by the Palestinian National Council [PNC] at its 20th session held in Algiers from 23-28 September and in support of the efforts aimed at establishing peace in the Middle East, the Council of Ministers has expressed its satisfaction with this positive step, which provides an opportunity for effective Palestinian participation in the anticipated peace conference.

Minister Al-Sha'ir went on to say: On another subject—the effort to eliminate weapons of mass destruction—the Council expressed its satisfaction and appreciation over the announcement made by U.S. President George Bush two days ago on his historic decision to reduce and limit U.S. land- and sea-based nuclear weapons. This represents a brave humanitarian initiative and an auspicious start on the road to eliminating all kinds of nuclear weapons for the good of all humanity and the protection of humanity from destructive weapons.

Minister Al-Sha'ir also said: Later, given the explanations presented to the Council by Hisham Muyhi-al-Din Nazir, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, on the recent meeting of OPEC oil ministers in Geneva, the custodian of the two holy mosques, commenting on Minister Nazir's report and the contents of the communique issued after these meetings, said: "Proceeding from its continuing eagerness to proceed with an oil policy aimed at achieving a just balance in supply and demand on the international market, and in order to protect the interests of the developing countries, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia —as is known—maintained its clear position to continue its current daily output."

His majesty said: "Clarity in explaining the Kingdom's oil policy and frank explanations of our positions help the oil-exporting countries, as well as the oil-consuming countries, to plan for the future in a realistic and far-sighted manner." [passage omitted]

Reports on Tense Relations With U.S. Denied

LD3009202691 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1826 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Jeddah, 30 Sep (SPA)—A responsible source has described reports disseminated by some media organs about the existence of tension in Saudi-U.S. relations as absolute, completely unfounded fabrications.

In a statement to SPA today, the source said: "The strong relations binding Saudi Arabia and the friendly United States are based on solid, well-established foundations of mutual respect and a deep understanding of the mutual cooperation in the various fields that serves the interests of both countries."

Concluding his statement, the source said: "As it emphasizes the depth of relations—which are today stronger than ever in the past—the Saudi Government, led by the custodian of the two holy mosques, is pleased to express its deep appreciation for the U.S. Government's rapid response in supplying Saudi Arabia with Patriot missiles to consolidate its air defenses against any external aggression."

United Arab Emirates

Bush's Arms Plan 'Historic,' 'Courageous'

JN3009200591 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 29 Sep 91 p 1

[Editorial: "A Historic Initiative"]

[Text] Because it is a courageous step placing the world at the threshold of a new, positive stage, the entire world was deeply satisfied with President Bush's plan to reduce the U.S. nuclear arsenal.

This step prompts the world to defuse an explosive mine, which threatens humanity and its civilized achievements with annihilation.

Bush's initiative is an important historic turning point, closing the curtain on a frantic 40-year race to stockpile weapons and ammunition. This race has depleted resources of rich and poor countries alike.

At the same time, and from material and human points of view, the plan embodies an extremely important dimension for the concept of the post cold war era. But above all, Bush's initiative constitutes the cornerstone of the talk about a new world order. The decision labels the United States as a responsible leader, and removes suspicion that it is a strong, dominant power.

Sooner or later, Bush's initiative will certainly force other countries to follow suit and reduce their military arsenals. Consequently, arms will be kept out when international conflicts are addressed.

Curbing the arms race means rich and poor countries will save a substantial amount of money, using it for economic and social development. This is one of the most salient features of Bush's initiative.

IAEA Spokesman on Nuclear Papers

LD3009175591 Berlin ADN in German 1641 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Saarbruecken (ADN)—Iraq was apparently trying to conceal important documents from the UN inspectors working in the country. In an interview with Saarland Radio, Hans Friedrich Meyer, spokesman for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), said today that on Sunday, the last day of their inspection, the inspectors "entered a building where in no time at all, at the very last minute, papers were removed in front of them."

Meyer emphasized that documents found last week prove without a doubt "that Iraq has developed a nuclear weapons program, on paper at least." There were also plans among these documents: "There were blueprints there; there were construction plans there." The team photographed these and all other important documents.

The photos will now be analyzed first of all in Bahrain, and then later in Vienna. Only then will it be possible to say conclusively "what is really in them." However, the papers proved "with certainty" that a nuclear weapons program was being developed in Iraq. The IAEA will report to the Security Council after the process of analysis has been concluded.

Meyer announced that a new team of inspectors will be chosen after this. "And it will go there again, and inspect further."

David Kay Holds Press Conference

JN0110074791 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0550 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] Manama, 30 Sep (WAKH)—David Kay, head of the inspection team of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], said he highly values the assistance provided by the State of Bahrain to the team members in their mission to uncover the Iraqi documents pertaining to the nuclear weapons development program. He said that the facilities that were provided to the team were quick and immediate and that this has expedited their mission.

At a news conference in Manama this evening, the international expert said that the team managed to collect important information that will shed further light on the Iraqi nuclear program. The international expert described the Iraqi program as very intricate in terms of the nature of the efforts made and the way in which the Iraqis had documented it.

Kay said that most of the information contained in the documents focused on information about the technical aspects of the development of the nuclear weapons program and the uranium enrichment operations. The documents also contained financial data on the purchase of equipment, and records on the special utilities for the program, the administrative cadre, the structure of the program, and the sources and persons involved in it.

The documents also dealt with the institutions which the Iraqis claimed had nothing to do with the nuclear weapons development program. However, these documents confirm the close connection of these institutions to the program.

Kay said the special utilities pertaining to the Iraqi program were of a higher standard than those in Europe and North America.

David Kay said that the international inspection team found that operations like maintenance operations of the program had been going on and that the Iraqi authorities had tried their best to withhold information from the team and to transfer this information from one place to another. This shows that the Iraqis want to keep the program and have not complied with the contents of Resolution 687, announcing the program and opening the door to the inspection team to carry out its inspection mission, destroy and eliminate the nuclear equipment, and render it harmless.

Kay declined to reveal the nationality or the number of companies that had been involved in providing Iraq with equipment and the information needed to develop its nuclear program. He said that one of the weak points that should be better controlled is the ability to control export operations. He emphasized the need for the international community to better coordinate its efforts to tighten control on the export of material dealing with nuclear programs.

Kay said he believes the success of the team's mission is due to the coordination among the team members, their agreement on what the goal should be and on the common principles, the ease with which information was obtained from countries, and the UN Security Council's support for the team while it was in Iraq.

He affirmed that the modern communications means through satellites had made it easier for the team members to communicate with the world and to transmit the information they had as soon as it came into their possession.

Kay said that the team will prepare a report in the next two days on the information it collected from the exposed documents. The report will be submitted to the UN Security Council early next week and to the IAEA, and to other countries which could help the team in analyzing the documents.

Kay Asked To Halt Supply of Information to CIA

JN0110085591 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0815 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] New York, 1 Oct (INA)—UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar came under strong pressure and suffered extreme embarrassment yesterday when

reporters attempted to learn from him more about David Kay's relationship with the U.S. intelligence service.

Javier Perez de Cuellar was compelled to say that it would be regrettable if it were to be confirmed that the inspection teams charged with inspecting the Iraqi nuclear program sent information to Washington before sending it to the United Nations.

The magazine NEWSWEEK and other U.S. newspapers disclosed that David Kay expeditiously supplied the Central Intelligence Agency [CIA] in Washington with information on the Iraqi nuclear program via satellite.

In a related development, Ekeus, head of the inspection committees charged with inspecting the Iraqi nuclear program, said that he, along with Javier Perez de Cuellar, had asked David Kay to halt his supply of information to the United States.

In a limited press interview here, Ekeus said that he, along with the UN secretary general, sent a coded message to Kay to this effect after his collaboration with the CIA had become exposed.

Saddam Addresses al-Ta'mim Delegation

JN2709192591 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio First Program Network in Arabic 1734 GMT 25 Sep 91

[Address by President Saddam Husayn to al-Ta'mim Governorate delegation on 24 September; place not given—recorded]

[Text] Greetings to al-Ta'mim citizens. A remark to the popular poet. I appreciate his enthusiasm. I would like to say, however, that when they attend a popular meeting, party members should allow the masses to speak about the party and not to speak themselves about the party. This is so because the party is no longer the party of those who are affiliated to it, but the party of the people.

I would like here to describe the Ba'thist. He is the one who is known in battle. He is also identified as the one who feeds his clan first and who gives priority to others. He is always at the forefront where there is danger, and the one to protect the rear positions when pressure increases during the withdrawal. This is the trait of the Ba'thist. The name of your party is al-Ba'th. This appellation has not been chosen arbitrarily. It means revival, in terms of its link to our people's spiritual heritage. From this angle, the word means revival, the revival of all the sublime values and meanings that have emerged from the nation through its glorious march. This is a state which exists with all the people. From this premise, all those who have faith are Ba'thists. But one must not say that they are only the ones who are only affiliated with the party, as being affiliated or not depends on various circumstances.

My advice to Ba'thists who are party members is to let the people speak for them, to let their actions speak for them. In gatherings such as this one, we must speak about the people. As I have explained, the faithful people together are al-Ba'th. In the acknowledged terminology, however, when one speaks about the people one speaks about something bigger and broader.

Let us go back to what one of the popular poets has said to say to him: What you have spoken about is now part of our past. Everything that is not good is now in the past, and everything that is good constitutes our present.

The good people are those who correct the mistakes of others. Let us learn lessons from the past.

Do you see any of the good people who are here as having been among those who terrorized children and women? Have you seen people whose names are known, or have they all been people who are not known? Those were the people who they wanted to lead you as part of their big conspiracy, the conspiracy of the 30-country aggression.

Who knows, even if the good ones closed their doors, the evil ones may have imposed themselves by force. You would then have discovered their true colors: that this person has no roots, that person has no origin, that person has no patriotism, and so on and so forth; they lack so much.

Thank God. When you talk about the Arab-Kurdish-Turkoman brotherhood, you should refer to it correctly. That is to say, be equal among yourselves. The most important basis for equality is the values of Islam. In al-Ta'mim Governorate, when you put the values of Islam before your eyes, your unity will become a reality.

As the brother clergyman has said, all people are the children of Adam and Eve who then became nations, peoples, and countries. But so as not to be lost in generalizations, we say: God Almighty has always encouraged us to give the close ones a prominent position. The noble prophet has also given a special position to the neighbor. From those two meanings, we can understand that geography counts, and that the other considerations relating to closeness also count. Before we search for brotherhood with someone across the Atlantic, we should become brothers with someone in al-Ta'mim Governorate. This is an issue relating to the place, as well as being a nationalist issue. In such a case, the meaning of the close ones applies to the relationship among yourselves within al-Ta'mim Governorate. When your relationship is based on those meanings, the evil one cannot infiltrate. Also, colors will then be constructive. We do not get upset by the presence of many colors and we would not say one color only, because all colors serve the common case on the basis of the common concepts; that is, the one people.

When we talk about the broader case and about what our people are going through now, we once again draw lessons from the wide and deep sea, and from the examples of the ships in that wide and deep sea; I mean the sea of the principles of Islam, and by ships I mean the ships of the Muslims or the good models in the history that overflows with great meanings.

When concentration on principles diminished, and when the link between principles and application on the ground diminished, many meanings were lost. If the main pillar of a house collapses, the whole house will collapse. Sometimes, however, the part which the foundation, or the other support columns in the house continue to support, may continue to serve as a roof for only the people close to it, but would not be suitable as a roof for the entire house.

There were many cases in which we distanced ourselves from the big meanings and limited ourselves to minor issues. Clannishness then surfaced, which in turn swept us away from the united body and the common goal.

There is a difference between clannishness ['asabiyyah], which distances one from the larger meanings, and the league [al-'usbah], which strengthens these meanings. There is no harm in the fact that one person is a Kurd, another is an Arab, and the third a Turkoman, on the condition they do not distance themselves from national consciousness. They should not separate these names from the common meaning of the relationship which exists among the Arab, the Kurd, and the Turkoman in the single homeland, the one city; and should not keep them away from present and future common interests.

When we ask about someone, the reply is that he is so and so, and is from this or that family. This does not mean some kind of clannishness and a distancing from the common meaning. If this means that this or that person wants to be identified only in relation to his family, however, then he will be the loser.

When we ask this or that person about his genealogy, he will say: I am from al-'Ubayd and Abu-Shahir [names of different tribes]. If he distances himself from the big meaning, the larger Iraqi national meaning, then he will be the loser. But if Abu-Shahir, al-'Ubayd, and al-Jubur and others are all part of the big tent which is Iraq, and if we take care of the main poles on which the tent is erected to prevent the tent from collapsing, and if we take care of Iraq's main pillars in the same manner that we take care of the poles of our small tent, then the small tent will be protected by the bigger tent. Otherwise, our small tent will just be a tent of minor importance if it remains separate and not protected by the bigger tent.

We passed through such an experience before Iraq became cohesive. All of us remember Iraq when it was not that big. Do not try to appear younger than you really are. I known that some of you try to pass for being younger than you are. We know who you are. We all remember what Iraq was like 20 years ago or so, even what it was like before the revolution, or 15 years ago.

All our tribes from the north to the south and from the east to the west are of good repute. But what did these designations mean? What is their history other than that they were fighting and robbing each other? Was there anything more to them?

As far as hospitality is concerned, they used to offer what they could to their guests. Such things do not add up to much of a history of the homeland. But, taken with the history of the homeland, it adds up. Some of those who are present here and who come from Kurdistan must recall that they were under an English-supported rule who hated us even more than the Americans, because they were uneasy, as you would put it in slang, and they were covetous and they knew what Iraq was and how it was developing to cause them unease.

Previously, they used to send a policeman to summon someone to the police station. There were no roads, and whatever roads there were few and far between. Someone riding a mule would be asked to go and tell so-and-so that he was wanted at the police station and that the sign was the policeman's uniform. And whoever has not heard about this thing may ask.

Even the cream of Iraqi society, for all their relative affluence, were in equally bad shape. Now, the situation is different. The people who lead you do not count their gains and losses on a daily basis, and those who do otherwise do not belong to us. I am talking in terms of the line of the state, as your leaders do not calculate their gains and losses at the end of the day. They calculate the treasury of the people. And the one you find that has calculated his treasure we expect you to tell about him no matter who he may be. Such a person does not belong to us. Only those who are bound by our principles belong to us. Our principles are that the leader belongs to the people rather than to himself. The wealth belongs to the nation and not to particular persons.

As for some people possessing greater wealth than others, this depends on individual effort, and this is in the natural course of things. Huge properties ought to be the possessions of people rather than leaders. Whoever wishes to become a big-time merchant and stuff his money in a cookie jar ought not to become leader. Let him get another job. There is nothing wrong with that. Leaders should not seek to become as wealthy as those who have immense property. Leaders have a privilege, in the sense that they can speak and command everyone's attention. This means that I can communicate my beliefs to you, to a large number of people, by radio and television. This is a privilege. It is permissible for the leader to have privileges other than those accorded by his status. I would like to say that the enemies spoke about Saddam Husayn by radio. I do not remember at what point in time this was. I circulated their talk among the leadership. Afterward, the information minister denied us the chance of continuing to hear their talk. He did not allow them to continue this talk. They said Saddam Husayn has immense wealth deposited somewhere, and that they will take reparations from this wealth. I looked at the people around me and told them: If they had known that Saddam Husayn has immense wealth, they would not have mobilized 30 countries to attack Iraq for one and a half months.

The people who are leading you want to see the whole wealth of Iraq become yours, not for the English or for the Americans. [applause]

A great deal of the wealth of the English came from India, Iraq, and other countries they colonized. Also, the Netherlands looted a great deal from Indonesia and others. France also plundered the wealth of several Arab and African countries. They colonized these countries to achieve development for their countries. We did not colonize anyone, yet we achieved progress for our country with the help of our own wealth and capabilities. But they think that you do not deserve this. They want us to lag far behind them. They do not want us to be ahead of them, except in battle, so that we will die and they will stay alive, exactly as they did to the Indians.

But that time is gone. I repeat that every position has its meanings and conditions, commitments, and rights. Those who want to be in the lead must endure a great deal of what people endure when they are in the lead. It is not like we are in a wedding, where someone wears his Sunday best and leads the wedding, but stays far behind in battle. This is not allowable. Whoever seeks a distinct position and not to be a servant or follower must fight to defend his country.

Anybody who wishes to see his country lofty and to remain lofty himself should not turn a blind eye to a traitor. When things are not in their proper course, one should straighten them out. One should not close his door when he sees villains harming free women and children. Instead, he should draw his sword and wear his shield and confront the villains. You all know what I am going to say. Your people have always held that one should seize his chances, although one might not always achieve his objective. Yet, your people always argued that when one has the opportunity, one should seize it without delay, because one does not have always a chance to do good, honorable deeds. Why do our people hold on to this notion, which has a deep, comprehensive, all-inclusive meaning. They said this because their duties in the past were limited and their scope narrow. That is why the people used to say that a chance to do good deeds might not come again. But I say now that any Samaritan can do good deeds at any moment, because the mission of defending the homeland, just like the mission of construction, does not begin on a certain day and end on another.

Karkuk residents remember how in the past, the alleys—not the streets, because there were no streets at the time—were not paved. They also remember how water used to flow from a small stream through the alleys of several neighboring houses. This situation remained unchanged for 20 or 30 years, with the same houses, the same stream, and the same neighbors, except for some simple changes brought about by the passage of time. This was the situation in all Iraqi cities in the past.

When our material resources became better, wherever we visited, people would tell us that their village is away from the main street and that they hope we would pave the streets for them so that they could reach the village easily. They also asked for water and electricity, isn't that so?

Why have we begun to make such demands? Because the country's wealth has become ours. In the past, it was not. It was owned by the British. We were only employed by them.

They used to tell some of us that they would assign two guards to each of them; and this used to gain their greatest satisfaction. They assigned two guards to this man, two workers to that person, and secured a job opportunity for this man's son, or for his cousin. They were very happy, despite the fact that these things were very simple. The normal thing is for natives to have the right to appoint Britons. The Briton used to condescend to appoint the native as a worker or as a guard so that he could sleep safely at night without needing the services of a soldier.

If they appointed 20 or 30 tribesmen for any reason, and thus allowed the tribal leader to obtain 20 or 30 dinars from these tribesmen, it used to be viewed as a great honor. Right now, if the Briton seeks an appointment, we are the people to consider if he is worthy of an appointment or not. We are the owners of the land. [applause]

This is our right to life, and our right in accordance with the injunctions of Almighty God. It is impermissible for us to ask the American's permission to erect a bridge. The true mettle of men, rather than banners, swords, or spears is what counts. The true mettle of men is what counts. The reference is to the men who want to remain proud rather than arrogant, because God does not like the arrogant. Similarly, the reference is to the pride that gains the satisfaction of Almighty God. He who seeks pride and dignity must perform lofty deeds.

One of the lofty deeds is not to allow foreigners to enter Iraqi territory, and for Iraq to remain the property of Iraqis. They might have differences or even fight among themselves. If Satan were to incite Iraqis against one another, and beat one another on the forehead using sticks, so be it. But they should not bring in foreigners to make fun of them. They would swim in their blood, while foreigners would be laughing and happy. [applause]

Each of us should say what he thinks is right. Telling the truth brings trouble. I am telling you that telling the truth is not an easy matter. However, it puts the conscience at ease. If it were to bring trouble, it would not trouble the conscience. If it were to bring trouble, it would not deny the person who were to be troubled the protection and satisfaction of Almighty God. This is because right is one of the attributes of God.

Let each of us tell the truth among ourselves and within the same family, within the department, within the tribe, within the society, and within the same city.

We should credit everybody with his deeds, because we do not want yardsticks to be left unused. The person who demonstrates a lofty position must have this position appreciated by all of us. This is because this lofty position serves all of us, rather than the person who demonstrated it. It is also because the person who displayed this lofty position took risks that are normally associated with the demonstration of lofty positions. Hence, we have to support him.

When a tribal leader sees a shortcoming, God forbid, he must speak up about it. He must say: Take me [wadduni], as the southerners say, to this man, or have me taken [dizzuni], as the northerners say, to this man. He must tell this man: What is this thing I heard about you? There should be no repeat of this. If there were to be a repeat of this, then you should expect reproach, as it is said. Thus, mistakes can be reduced. Likewise, the man of religion should not content himself with saying: This Koranic verse says so and so. He must say: O men, residents of this neighborhood in Karkuk, let us go to the governor.

I have an opinion I want to share with you. This concerns the fact that some girls are wearing clothes that influence our girls. Let us go to the families of these girls residing in a certain neighborhood and tell them: We would like to see your women dress properly so that our girls may dress properly before God and the people. Do this. Do not ask the authorities to do everything for you. If somebody sells alcoholic beverages somewhere, do not seek the help of the authorities. You are members of the people's council. You can prohibit this. Tell the seller not to do his selling in this place. Go somewhere else. These are some of the privileges of the people's council. The people's council can meet, gather the people, and say: This man, son of this man, comes to us late at night, and knocks at our doors; he lives nearby. O men, this conduct harms the community. Let us warn him and tell him: If you fail to change your behavior, you have to find yourself somewhere else to live. Leave us. Then you will have a community that upholds sublime values.

When you have a coward known for his unpatriotic stands, you must send for him, make him listen to you, and enumerate his shortcomings. You must tell him that we do not accept these shortcomings. Either you commit yourself to the norms and decisions of the community, or leave us. This applies to many other things which you agree are unacceptable.

One more thing, I would like to tell you the following: Among you, if you find that a subdistrict officer does not suit you, before sending a delegation to him, you should ask a noble man to discuss the issue with him. Are not all of your sons and brothers, or many of them Ba'thists? Send one of these noble men to the subdistrict officer to discuss his shortcomings with him. If he corrects himself, then you will have remedied his shortcomings. But if he fails to correct his shortcomings, you should say: Let a delegation of us, made up of 30, go to the subdistrict officer; let us have one person speak on our behalf and enumerate these shortcomings for him, one by one. If he corrects his conduct, that would be just fine. But if he fails to do so, we would give him a grace period. Once this period expires, the same delegation would seek an audience with the district officer to discuss the issue with him.

This is if you want to follow the chain of command; if you do not, you can go directly to the governor and tell him that you have a subdistrict officer at such and such a place against whom you hold certain things, but only after you have checked things, because being accurate should guarantee our rights.

We hear rumors, and when I follow through on what I hear, it turns out there is nothing important, but I find nonsense and idle talk that has nothing to it. And when I find that the rumors or let's say hearsay are not based in fact, I do not pay attention to them. Out of every three rumors I take only one seriously. So the more accurate one is the more likely one is to be heard out. But if one talks inaccurately, one is unlikely to be taken seriously, and his rights are not guaranteed.

And when we confirm anything against a subdistrict officer, we then go to the governor directly, and should the latter prove to be less than forthcoming, we will report him as well as the subdistrict officer. We would thus bring into being such a society as we want for the Iraqis and they deserve, since they have offered much sacrifice in the interest of the high standing that pleases God and the good. And when each one of us carries out his duties properly, God willing, we will not have any shortcomings.

If many of us say let others report this, is there a guarantee that others will? Under such circumstances, and when so-and-so in society and so-and-so in the state may do a fourth of the work they are supposed to do, we will have lost three quarters of the work. We pin great hopes on you and on all the good. You will hopefully make things right and build justice, and if the people who make things right do so on bases of justice, God will be pleased with them and grant them success and crown their efforts with success and let their efforts prevail.

As for us, God willing, we will not leave a thing undone that we consider to be good. May God be with you.

Arab Students Denounce 'Suspect' U.S. Plans

JN2709173491 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio First Program Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Arab students receiving their education in Iraq have denounced repeated U.S. attempts to meddle in Iraq's domestic affairs and using UN inspection teams to promote espionage for the purpose of doing harm to the sovereignty of Iraq and paving the way for a fresh aggression against the country. Demonstrating in front of the UN Development Program offices in Baghdad, the students vented their anger, outrage, and denounced suspect American plans to undermine Iraq's sovereignty

and its legitimate right to acquire scientific knowhow, and rob it of its national decisionmaking.

The Arab students chanted slogans that called for rallying behind the leadership of His Excellency President Saddam Husayn in the face of the imperialist and Zionist conspiracy. The head of the Arab students' secretariat handed the UN representative in Baghdad a cable of protest addressed to the UN secretary general, denouncing the behavior of the U.S. Administration and its exploitation of UN inspectors to advance aggressive objectives against Iraq.

National Assembly Team Leaves for IPU Meeting

JN3009163791 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1402 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 30 Sep (INA)—An Iraqi National Assembly delegation left for Chile today to take part in the 86th six-day conference of the Interparliamentary Union [IPU] which will be begin there on 7 October.

In a statement to INA, Dr. Sultan al-Shawi, head of the delegation and chairman of the assembly's Legal Committee, said that among the topics to be raised by the Iraqi delegation during the conference will be the decision to maintain the economic embargo, the magnitude of destruction inflicted on Iraq's infrastructure as a result of the 30-state aggression, and the responsibility of world parliamentarians, the United Nations, and the Red Cross for the odious U.S.-allied crime of burying Iraqi soldiers alive.

He explained that the National Assembly delegation has also prepared working papers that will be submitted during the conference debates. The papers uncover the duality and selectivity of UN resolutions and U.S. attempts to interpret and select resolutions that serve U.S. interests around the world. [passage omitted]

Oil Minister, CSFR Envoy Discuss Cooperation

JN3009115891 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1135 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Sep (INA)—Oil Minister Usamah 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Hiti met here today with CSFR Ambassador in Baghdad, Mr. Ladislav Lengvel.

During the meeting they discussed means of bolstering friendly bilateral cooperation in the oil industry.

New Deportees From Kuwait Arrive 29 Sep

JN3009135491 Baghdad INA in English 1255 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Excerpt] Safwan Al-Basrah Province, Sept. 30, INA—A new group of Arabs who were expelled by Kuwaiti authorities arrived on Sunday at this border town.

Some of the deportees said Kuwaiti prisons are still crammed with Arab nationals who are being subjected to torture.

Search and detention campaigns have become a daily practice by Kuwaiti security men. This is part of the plan to empty Kuwait of Arab nationals, they said.

They added that they had been deprived of their pensions, their bank savings, personal property and their personal documents.

Kuwait is now negotiating with foreign companies to import Asian workers to replace Arabs, they said.

Since last July, the Red Cross in cooperation with the Iraqi Red Crescent are providing the deportees with basic needs and means of transport to take them to their home states. [passage omitted]

Barzani Briefs Kurds on Negotiations, Autonomy

JN2909180091 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Arabic 1616 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Comrade struggler Mas'ud Barzani has continued his visit to al-Sulaymaniyah Governorate. Our reporter says that on the third day of his visit, the dear guest of al-Sulaymaniyah visited Martyrs Memorial in [name indistinct]. Comrade struggler Mas'ud Barzani made his way with great difficulty amid the huge crowds. Upon his arrival at the memorial, and after reading verses from the Koran to the rest of martyrs, who watered with their pure blood the tree of freedom, and authored the chapters of glory and pride in the history of their people, struggler Mas'ud Barzani made a speech, in which he said:

Brothers, sisters: The great glory being achieved today is the reward of the blood of those heroes, who are [word indistinct]. We bow in reverence to those people, for it was their sacrifices and martyrdom that secured for their Kurdish people a glorious, honorable future.

He then addressed the parents of our righteous martyrs, telling them: You have a claim on every Kurd because honoring you is our duty. I promise you that if the Kurdistan Front and the Kurdish revolution achieve their objectives, the first to reap the fruits will be you, who are dear to us.

Those who are buried in the ground are immortals, living in the hearts of the people. All the peshmergas of Kurdistan are your sons and beloved ones.

Comrade struggler Mas'ud Barzani left the land of the martyrs amid the cheers of the masses for Halabjah—the immortal town in history which will live in memory forever. Struggler Barzani was accorded a warm welcome by the families of Halabjah martyrs and its masses. After greeting them, comrade struggler Mas'ud Barzani made a speech, in which he said:

O masses of martyred Halabjah: I have come to Halabjah to express my feelings to the families of Halabjah martyrs and its masses. Halabjas lives in the hearts of every honest Kurd and in the memory of mankind. For whenever the Kurdish people's issue is discussed anywhere,

people will remember Halabjah and its tragedy. Indeed, Halabjah has promoted the Kurdish cause.

He added: Our presence today among you, with all this freedom, is the result of your martyrs' blood and your steadfastness and the heroic deeds of the peshmergas of Kurdistan.

Afterward, the comrade struggler spoke about the current stage, including the ongoing negotiations between the Kurdistan Front leadership and the Iraqi Government. He highlighted the substance of the plans on autonomy, normalization of the situation in Kurdistan, and defining the autonomy area.

He added: After all that we have been through, we should—and this is in our interest—be realistic, and recognize the higher interests of our Kurdish people, giving them precedence over anything else. Every Kurd should know that we do not fear fighting and war, and that we are not tired of struggle. When we find that our goals can be achieved peacefully, however, I feel bitter to see the option of war preferred. Our people do not wish to see war. They have defended themselves and their existence and made sacrifices for that.

Today, after 30 years of experience, there is a good chance available to us, the government as well, to turn over a new leaf on the level of the Iraqi people—Arabs, Kurds, Turkomans, and Assyrians.

Barzani went on to say: Experience has shown that the Kurdish people's issue is resolvable neither through arms, nor through extermination by chemical agents, nor Arabization, nor transfer. It must be resolved by a realistic approach, by peace, and also by granting the Kurdish people their legitimate rights. Comrade struggler Mas'ud Barzani explained his departure for Baghdad for negotiations and what has been realized during the negotiations. He said that the negotiations are continuing. Concluding his speech, struggler Mas'ud Barzani pointed out that some abnormal phenomena alien to the Kurdish people's sublime ethics have surfaced. He called for fighting these phenomena and for eradicating them by all means.

The visit by struggler Mas'ud Barzani had great impact on the masses of Halabjah and its martyrs' relatives. They, elderly and young alike, men and women, prayed to God that he would be successful in his efforts to serve the Kurdish people, and realize the dream of martyrs.

Then, the masses bid their dear guest farewell. He left for Senajiyan to acquaint himself with the situation of its residents as well as the state of affairs of refugees there, the people displaced from Karkuk. The Senajiyan masses, as well as the Karkuk refugees, who, along with their families and children, have made this city, which also had more than its fair share of destruction and tragedies, a home pending the day of return to their beloved city of Karkuk, and the restoration of safety and peace there. The crowds lined the sidewalks, waving their hands, saluting the leader and carrying placards welcoming struggler Mas'ud Barzani, and pictures of their late leader immortal Mustafa Barzani. Meanwhile, the speakers hooked onto cars and on rooftops were used to air revolutionary and popular songs that expressed the masses' strong sentiments, and their happiness with this pleasant day and meeting. Senajiyan had its day of happiness. Its brilliance shows brightly. The elderly, children, men, as well as women, were asking one another in ecstasy: Has he arrived? Has he passed by? They were asking about leader Mas'ud Barzani. They were anxious to see him. And in no time, the leader who loves them, and who is loved by them came, waving his hand, saluting them from the dais. Afterward, he spoke to the sons of Senajiyan, the city of beautiful gardens, and also to its beloved guests, the Karkuk refugees. Comrade struggler Mas'ud Barzani began his speech by saying: Dear sisters and brothers, masses of the city of Senajiyan, masses of Karkuk and (Diryan), who are now guests of Senajiyan and its population. Now, I am happy, because I am visiting you to talk to you freely. This is the third time I have visited Senajiyan, which we see as a destroyed city. This truly reflects the picture of today's Kurdistan. I visited Senajiyan in 1965, along with Mustafa Barzani. I also visited it in 1970. I hope that it will be rebuilt and reconstructed. I thank you for the warm reception and the good hospitality I was accorded. I will not forget this.

Before moving to discuss the current situation and the negotiations the Kuridstan Front delegation has been engaged in with the Iraqi Government, he commented on a remark made by a citizen who called him [in Kurdish] teacher of the Kurdish liberation movement, explaining: I am not a teacher of the Kurdish liberation movement. I am a student at this school of struggle and a Kurdish peshmerga. As for the teacher of the Kurdish liberation movement, he is the eternal Mustafa Barzani, as well as the Kurdish martyrs who sacrificed their lives. He added: The negotiations started as a result of a decision made by the Kurdistan Front leadership. They were not initiated as a result of a decision made by a single party or person. At the time, the decision was made when 4 million Kurds were being displaced, made refugees, and victims of an unknown future. Adopting a nationalist position was found to be preferable to displacing 4 million Kurds, as they could have turned into a people without a land, a people who would then be have been denied all rights and respect. Hence, the decision made at the time was proper, sound, and historic.

After he explained to the masses, who were listening to him attentively, carefully, and intelligently, about what had been achieved during the phases of negotiations on the autonomy plan, the normalization of the situation in Kurdistan, and the draft political statement, Barzani elaborated on the issue of Karkuk, Khanaqin, and Sinjar, which, as he said, figured prominently during the talks and negotiations. He added: The views of the two sides differed on these areas. The situation must be normalized in these areas. All the other rights enjoyed by the

Kurdish masses in the areas that are part of the autonomous region must be granted to the residents of these areas. Specifically, he addressed the Karkuk masses, saying: I would like to remind you that nobody has ever described Karkuk as the eternal Barzani did. He coined the well-known phrase: Karkuk is the heart of Kurdistan. He added: We cannot abandon Karkuk or any single village in Kurdistan. However, we have to be realistic. He indicated that had the government been responsive in 1974 to adopting a position similar to its current one on Karkuk, Khanaqin, and Sinjar, fighting would not have erupted. He affirmed that the government is ready to sign a special document on Karkuk to the effect that the rights granted to Kurds, be they residents of al-Sulaymaniyah, Irbil, or Dahuk, will be granted to Kurdish citizens of Karkuk. Therefore, I do not want to see the Karkuk population displaced and living in tents, because we know what would happen to them in the cold, and in the rain of winter which is approaching.

Barzani added: The importance of the presence of Karkuk residents in their city, and of the attainment of the privileges they deserve is something taken for granted, as far as we are concerned. We are keen on this. This is good for us and for them. But, we must be realistic. Goals cannot be achieved overnight. We will not go and sign any document with anybody, stating that Karkuk is not part of Kurdistan. Moreover, we neither have the right, nor can we do so after 70 years of struggle and displacement. I am not pretending that the draft agreement currently available is perfect. Yes, it contains some shortcomings. However, all in all, it contains many positive points. In my opinion, it offers an opportunity which should not be wasted. It can be improved upon in the future. When we embarked on negotiations, brothers and sisters, we were aware of what happened. We were aware of the use of chemical weapons, and also of the destruction of 4,000 villages. Similarly, we were aware of what befell several thousands of Barzanis, al-Anfal [not further identified], and our [word indistinct] brothers. However, is it reasonable for us to keep the catastrophe going on, and to allow our wounds to fester? The question raised here concerns what the external parties can do to us. Is there an alternative in the first place? To the best of my knowledge, external parties do not have a political alternative to the Kurdish people.

Barzani went on to say: After the incidents of Taqtaq and (Kulshajag), the allies came to me and told me frankly: If you initiate fighting, we cannot help you or intervene on your behalf, nor keep the Iraqi Army from retaliating against you. But if the Iraqi Army attacks you, we will then intervene. The comrade struggler Mas'ud Barzani added: As we thank and appreciate the parties and personalites and countries that have helped us in time of need, you should know that the assistance was not political but humanitarian in nature, while ours is a political issue. We have not been made homeless due to hunger. The people of Karkuk have not been made homeless due to hunger. Far from it. The plain of (Diryan) is rich enough to meet the needs of the people of Karkuk and all the population of Kurdistan, and even to meet the needs of Africa. What we need is a political solution, security, peace, and stability for our people so that they may benefit from the bounty of their land. Regarding negotiations with the government, the comrade struggler stressed that the Kurdistan Front's political leadership's decision thus far favors continued negotiations. He went on to say: We have to strive convincingly. But if it turns out that we hold diverse perceptions, we will put the whole plan to the people so that they have the final word. I would like to once more emphasize that the people of Karkuk and (Diryan) as well as all those of other cities in Kurdistan must return to their original areas and enjoy all their rights, either inside or outside the autonomous boundaries.

The comrade struggler Mas'ud Barzani then turned to the Kurdistan Front and the need to preserve it and consolidate its institutions. Addressing himself to the masses, the peshmergas, and the cadres of the parties of the front, he said: I call on you to stand up to any leadership that contemplates sabotaging the unity of the Kurdish people. Concluding, the struggler Mas'ud Barzani stressed the need to weed out the phenomenon of aggressing against the lives and property of the citizens and to combat mafia gangs and punish them severely.

INA Reports al-Sulaymaniyah Speech

JN2909192691 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Sep (INA)—Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan, has said that long experience has shown that the Kurdish question can only be resolved within the Iraqi national framework.

In a rally held today in al-Sulaymaniyah in northwest Iraq, Barzani stressed that dialogue with the central government is the best way to achieve the objectives. He said peace is the path that everyone should follow.

He stressed that positive results have emerged from the rounds of talks between the government and the Kurdistan Front's delegation. He said an improved law on autonomy has been agreed upon.

Mas'ud Barzani underlined the concern of the Kurdistan region's citizens to strengthen the ties of Arab-Kurdish brotherhood for the sake of Iraq's unity, sovereignty, and interests. He said citizens in the autonomous region reject the formulas that bargain on their stability and future.

Mas'ud Barzani pointed out that differences over any issue must be resolved with realism, wisdom, and logic. He referred to the need to maintain mutual trust between the central government and the Kurdistan Front's delegation to reach a common conviction so that the Iraqi people, with all of their nationalities, can enjoy happiness, brotherhood, and peace.

Talks Made 'Important' Progress

JN3009182391 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1703 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Al-Sulaymaniyah, northern Iraq, 30 Sep (INA)—Mr. Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan, has stressed that our Kurdish people view peace as a firm policy governing all their practices and a means for stability and happiness.

He said in a statement to INA: We fully believe that peace and stability must overwhelm Kurdistan because the will of peace is the strongest.

Mr. Barzani said the current dialogue between the central government and the Kurdistan Front delegation has made important progress and scored major accomplishments. He stressed that the Kurdish issue cannot be solved except in Baghdad "no matter what the circumstances."

Mr. Barzani visited Banjwin, Halabjah, Jamjamal, Darbandikhan, Klar, and 'Arabit and met with citizens in expanded popular rallies to explain the progress made and the advanced stages reached in the negotiations between the central government and the delegation of the Kurdistan Front.

Saddam Said Omitting Karkuk From Autonomous Area

NC2809165991 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] The Joint Action Committee of the Opposition Forces [JACOF] has issued an urgent statement addressing Arab and international public opinion, governments, and organizations. In this statement, the JACOF says that the criminal regime is still pursuing its murderous policies against our brave people. Since the beginning of this month, the regime has instructed its troops to conduct large-scale military operations in the southern and northern parts of the country. These operations were particularly fierce in Karkuk, where the regime is trying to hunt down the members of the Kurdistan Front who oppose the outcome of the negotiations with the regime.

The JACOF statement notes the explosion of a time bomb at a garage serving the Karkuk-al-Sulaymaniyah road. The Kurdish Front has received cables from its leadership noting the number of casualties at the scene of the fire and accusing the Saddamist regime of killing the fighters of the Kurdish Front (?and instigating) civil war.

In another development, the forces of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK] have, over the past few days, attacked Ba'thist mercenaries stationed between Irbil and (Hijr al-Sultan). The PUK fighters attacked Ba'thist camps in these areas and killed the mercenaries inside the camps.

Meanwhile, other PUK groups attacked Saddamist troops on the road between [words indistinct] and captured many officers and soldiers. All the prisoners were then handed over to the criminal regime under the supervision of the UN forces stationed in the north. But 40 of the captured personnel refused to return to the regime's service and joined the opposition. It is to be noted that these operations resulted in heavy losses for the regime.

According to reliable sources, the criminal Saddam told his entourage that he does not intend to give the Kurds the city of Karkuk as part of the autonomous area. He said instead of Karkuk he is ready to give them (Qada' Kayar) after renaming it a governorate. Kurdistan Democratic Party leader Mas'ud Barazani accepted this, but PUK leader Jalal Talabani rejected it.

Opposition Leader on Saddam, UN Resolutions

NC2909174891 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Opposition in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Statement by Sa'd Salih Jabr, chairman of the Free Iraqi Council; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. O noble Iraqi people. In his holy book, God Almighty says: "O ye who believe! Take not my enemies and yours as friends." [Koranic verse] Verily, God said the truth.

By all measurements Saddam is an archenemy of God and humanity. We are not making statistics of the number of crimes this defeated tyrant has committed. The Iraqi people, the Iranian people, and the Kuwaiti people are not the last victims of this criminal. Despite the defeats his collapsing regime has suffered and the sanctions imposed on the Iraqi people because of his crimes and his insistence on staying in power regardless of the cost to Iraq, he continues to violate international laws, thus further increasing the suffering of the good Iraqi people.

The recent threats by the UN Security Council over Saddam's detention of the UN inspection team undoubtedly are significant evidence of this criminal's disrespect for international charters. This will bring dire consequences for the Iraqi people.

The question every Iraqi is asking is: Why are these billions of funds being squandered on manufacturing weapons while the Iraqi people are experiencing the hardest ordeal in their history? Strangely enough, while the Iraqis are in dire need of the simplest necessities of life in terms of food and medicine, suffer poor living conditions, and lack social services, housing, electricity, and water, Taha Yasin Ramadan has stated that Iraq will not accept the UN resolution which allows the sale of $1.5 billion of oil provided this sum is allocated for purchasing essentials. Ramadan added that the Iraqi people prefer to die of hunger rather than accept the UN conditions. Ramadan said this because his master

Saddam wants the entire sum for himself so he may dispose of it as he pleases. The UN resolution insists that the sum be spent on food, medicine, and humanitarian services.

Saddam and his clique, however, want cash. They do not want the people to know how this money is spent. Saddam's son 'Uday owns more than 100 luxury cars. Such a number is not owned by the wealthiest people in the world. [words indistinct]

It is ironic that such cliques are controlling the Iraq of Islam the Iraq of [words indistinct], the Iraq of civilization, and the Iraq of freedom and democracy. The sun of freedom and democracy will rise in Iraq very shortly, God willing. May God's peace and mercy be with you.

Official: Democratic Change Coming to Kurdistan

JN3009093991 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0804 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Sep (INA)—Mr. Khadr 'Abd-al-'Aziz, member of the Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, has affirmed that the Autonomous Region is currently going through a distinguished phase characterized by stability and security.

The secretary of the Party's northern region organization said in an interview with the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH published today that the Kurdistan Autonomous Region will witness democratic and revolutionary changes as a result of the prevailing atmosphere of democracy created by the 17-30 July Revolution and confirmed by the 10th regional conference of the Party, the Conference for Jihad and Reconstruction.

He added that experiences and lessons have proved that the sons of our Kurdish people today stand together like a towering mountain, solid, determined, and cohesive, along the road to toppling all the colonialist, imperialist schemes aimed at stopping the perpetual wheel of growth and civilized construction.

He noted that those who play the tune of hostility and lurk in dark corners have been exposed by events and experiences since they have now become known to the Kurdish people, who have rejected them because of their attempts to thwart the statement of autonomy, the revolution's gift to our Kurdish people.

The member of the Party's regional command said that the ideal autonomous region experiment will remain a bright struggle stage and will continue to be placed in the trust of the Iraqi people's hearts and minds.

SAIRI Sends Memo to Countries on 'Terror'

NC2809161091 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Excerpt] The Foreign Relations Department of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI] has distributed a memorandum to the foreign ministers of several countries. The memorandum deals with the destructive policies adopted by the regime of criminal Saddam against our people and the ceaseless acts of terror which Saddam's mercenaries have been committing since last March.

The memorandum says in part: The marshland in the south is the scene of extreme tension. The Saddamist regime is massing troops armed with heavy weapons in that area and is using artillery and helicopters to shell areas in Maysan and al-Nasiriyah.

The regime has warned the inhabitants of the villages close to the marshland that they should evacuate their villages very soon. The regime also has set fire to approximately 250 houses in various areas near the marshland, without allowing their owners to remove their belongings.

The regime also attacked (Lisan 'Ajirdah) and al-Baydah, situated north of (al-Wazir), as well as al-Salam, north of al-'Amarah. The regime is likely to enlarge the scope of its attacks in view of its determination to achieve its goals at all costs. [passage omitted]

'National Reform Movement' Established

NC2709182391 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Opposition in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] A group of Iraqi political figures have announced the formation of an opposition group called the National Reform Movement [harakat al-islah al-watani] to bring down dictator Saddam Husayn and prepare the groundwork for establishing democracy in the country. A statement issued [passage indistinct]. The constituent committee of the new groups includes the following members: Staff Major General 'Abd-al-Karim Farhan, Staff Maj. Gen. Talal Mustafa, ('Abd-al-Muhsin al-Khafaji), Dr. (Ibrahim Muhammad Hasan), [names indistinct], Qasim Muhammad al-Sabahi, [names indistinct], and Shaykh (Samarzar al-Marjan), the latter being the movement's head and official spokesman.

Report on Antiregime Operations

NC2709162591 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1423 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] As part of the series of operations carried out by our heroic mujahidin to pound the bastions of the 'Aflaqite criminal regime, a group of mujahidin have kidnapped three mercenaries of the criminal Ba'thist regime. They were questioned thoroughly to find out about the crimes they had committed against our people and heroic mujahidin. After giving important information, which we are keeping a record of, they received the just judgment of retribution.

In another development, an al-Rafidayn group of revolutionaries intercepted and shot criminal Lieutenant Colonel Salih Ahmad (al-Drimi), commander of Artillery Unit No. 16,813, who ordered and played a dirty role in shelling the holy city of Karbala' in the first days

of the bald popular uprising in the month of Sha'ban [February-March]. Blessed be the hands of our brother mujahidin. The day of victory is near for the believers.

Attacks Claimed Against Government Targets

NC3009152791 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1420 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] The sons of the popular uprising are escalating their jihad operations against the repressive regime's organs in most cities daily. They carried out the following operations over the past few days:

1. They killed Amirah Zibalah, member of the so-called National Assembly and one of the senior figures of the B'ath Women's Federation. She played a criminal and filthy role by spying on mujahidin and revolutionaries in the holy city of Karbala'.

2. The people have taken control of the [name indistinct] area in Maysan Governorate following a fierce battle with Saddam's mercenary forces.

3. In Mosul's al-Yarmuk area they killed an Aflaqite party official who was notorious for his repressive actions against the mujahidin there.

Greetings to all our heroic mujahdin. Forward until victory is achieved, God willing.

Sources on U.S.-PLO Talks, Baker Contacts

TA0110082791 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 1 Oct 91 pp A1, 2

[Report by Avino'am Bar-Yosef and Washington correspondent 'Oded Shorer]

[Excerpts] Jerusalem welcomes the decision by the United States not to renew its dialogue with the PLO. In the wake of the Palestine National Council [PNC] resolutions in Algiers, the United States informed Israel that it has no intention of acceding to 'Arafat's request that the dialogue with his organization be resumed. Secretary of State James Baker likewise informed Foreign Minister David Levi that at this stage he has no intention of meeting with Faysal al-Husayni and Hanan 'Ashrawi when they visit the United States. [passage omitted]

Jerusalem emphasized last night that the cancellation of the meeting with the two Palestinians is not enough and that they should be prevented from participating in any future negotiations because they are identified with the PLO. Israel has pressured the United States on the matter twice: once, about a week ago, when Ambassador Shoval announced that Israel would take a very serious view of an invitation for the two to visit Washington, if it transpired that they participated in the PNC deliberations; and another warning late last week, after it became clear that al-Husayni and 'Ashrawi had indeed been in Algiers.

Israel has also warned against a worse rift with Washington, noting that it is losing its faith in U.S. mediation within the framework of the conference. Meanwhile, the dispute over the letter of assurances Baker is expected to give Israel remains. Jerusalem claims that the United States has reneged on the commitment in principle it had given on the matter. It was pointed out that the U.S. secretary of state may come to the region soon to conclude the issue of the letters of assurances.

This is a subject over which the views of Foreign Minister David Levi and Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir are currently far apart. Levi is dismayed with the fact that Shamir sends instructions to Ambassador Shoval directly from his office. Shamir firmly insists that the United States must furnish Israel with a memorandum of understanding, while Levi thinks there is no chance that the differences with the United States over this matter can be bridged. He therefore believes that Israel should become more flexible and make do with a letter of assurances.

Shamir Demands Memorandum

TA0110084991 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 1 Oct 91 p A6

[Report by Avino'am Bar-Yosef and 'Oded Shorer]

[Excerpts] There seems to be a serious disagreement between Foreign Minister David Levi and Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir on the memorandum of understanding. This follows the discovery that Shamir is "bypassing" Levi by sending instructions on the matter to Zalman Shoval, Israel's ambassador to Washington, directly from his office.

Whereas Shamir firmly believes the United States should provide Israel with a document to serve as a memorandum of understanding in anticipation of the peace conference, David Levi—currently in New York—thinks there is no chance the differences between Israel and the United States in this regard can be bridged. Levi believes Israel should be happy with only a letter of assurances.

The issue of the memorandum of understanding was discussed yesterday during a meeting between Ambassador Shoval, Minister Mikha'el Shilo, and Counselor Shim'on Stein with Dennis Ross of the State Department. These men are expected to hold a second meeting in two days. A subcommittee of this forum will meet today to discuss the nature of the talks that will be held after the peace conference opens. [passage omitted]

Consultations on the content of the letter of assurances were held Sunday in Jerusalem. Political sources expressed disappointment with the U.S. position, which reflects a change of mind regarding the understandings that had been reached during the arduous negotiations with Baker that preceded Israel's yes.

The differences between the Israeli draft and the one submitted by the United States remain substantial, and U.S. sources have reported that acceptance of Jerusalem's demands might leave the Palestinians out of the conference.

It turns out that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is adamant. He is demanding a memorandum of understanding, not a letter of assurances. The Israeli team views Washington's draft as unsatisfactory because it is not made out as a document but as a letter of intent, which does not at all meet Israel's expectations. Furthermore, the draft fails to mention the demand, which had been agreed upon with the United States, that the Palestinians who will be invited will declare that they oppose violent struggle and intend to live in peace with Israel; it does not address the demand that in the event that representatives from the territories express their identification with the PLO or place the PLO flag on the negotiating table, Israel will quit the conference with U.S. consent; likewise, the draft ignores previous U.S. declarations that the 1967 borders are indefensible and that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] will not be required to pull out of southern Lebanon as long as all the foreign forces, including the Syrian Army, still remain there.

Shamir also takes a serious view of the fact that in its letter the United States lumps East Jerusalem and the Golan Heights together with the rest of the territories of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. Washington estimates that

in view of these difficulties Secretary of State James Baker may return to the Middle East in the next few days to work out the contentious issues with the regional heads of state. In that event, Levi will also cut short his visit to the United States so he could participate in the talks. [passage omitted]

Shamir Opposes Early Elections Before Conference

TA0110065591 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0505 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is cooling down everybody's excitement: He opposes early elections and intends to uphold the government until it ends its term, the prime minister's associates said. They added that Mr. Shamir believes that the current government has to be kept intact because there is a threat that if there is a coalition crisis, the Labor Party might set up an alternative government with ultraorthodox religious parties. Ministers from the right-wing parties will try to coordinate stands before the cabinet session today. Our party affairs correspondent Shlomo Raz reports:

Yitzhaq Shamir prefers a bird in the hand. This is the gist of the explanations his associates offer for his stand which, on the face of it, contradicts the remarks and heart's desires that had prevailed in the Likud and perhaps still do. Mr. Shamir believes that his government is functioning properly and is meeting the tasks it is facing. That is why it should be allowed to exist until its term ends. This is the message Shamir relayed to his interlocutors. The two who heard this from him were Ministers Yuval Ne'eman and Rehav'am Ze'evi, when they asked for an immediate audience with him on the eve of the holiday [29 September]. After the meeting, Ze'evi announced that he would not lend his hand to toppling the government, when the alternative might be a Labor-headed government. Yuval Ne'eman believes that there is no need to play into the hands of the Labor Party. If it becomes apparent that there is a chance to advance the elections, he will support this move.

According to his associates, however, the prime minister fears that there is a chance, though slight, for an alternative government headed by the Labor Party. Therefore, it becomes apparent that he does not trust the declarations made by the ultraorthodox religious parties that they would not support an alternative government.

Minister Arye Der'i said that SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] will not join Labor and that it would support early elections only if the Likud initiates them. Rabbi Moshe Ze'ev Feldman has declared that Agudat Yisra'el is against early elections. Yitzhaq Shamir does not want to test those declarations. The year left for this government to end its term is very important. Yuval Ne'eman and Rehav'am Ze'evi both heard that.

The two will try to get Refa'el Eytan to form a stand accepted by the three right-wing parties. The Tehiya chairman initiated a meeting before the cabinet session today. While Tzomet and Moledet have already expressed their support for the government, in Tehiya the stands on this issue are quite polarized.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 0600 GMT on 1 October adds: "Deputy Minister Ge'ula Kohen said in response that in making his scary declarations that a Labor-led government is to be expected, Shamir is grabbing an excuse, and he also knows that this is a false warning. Deputy Minister Kohen told our correspondent that she hopes that the Tehiya Central Committee, scheduled to convene soon, would decide that the party will quit the coalition if the government accepts an invitation to the peace conference."

[A report by Ilan Shehori on page A2 of Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 1 October says that "according to sources in the prime minister's bureau, Shamir will act to allow this move only after the peace conference convenes, and only if difficult differences of opinions over substantial issues occur there.

["A senior source at the prime minister's bureau yesterday told HA'ARETZ that it would be better for the Likud to bring about early elections and hold an election campaign on the background of an explosion of the peace talks over the issue of Jerusalem, the Golan Heights, or another substantive issue, than over this or other procedural issues."]

Labor Leaders Note Terms for Early Elections

TA2909094991 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0900 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Labor Party Secretary Mikha Harish does not support early elections. He believes his party should support the peace process and focus on the struggle to change the electoral system. Mr. Harish told our party affairs correspondent Shlomo Raz that early elections would sabotage the peace process and allow the government to shirk responsibility for its failures in the social and economic spheres as well as in immigrant absorption. He thinks that if the right-wing parties express no confidence in the government, they will be kicked out of it. The caretaker government would then be able to attend the peace conference freely.

Knesset Member Yitzhaq Rabin, a Labor Party leader, said that he would support early elections only if the electoral reform bill and the bill on the direct election of the prime minister are passed first.

Construction Starts in Territories To Be Halved

TA0110090191 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 1 Oct 91 p 3

[Report by Ya'ir Fidel and Tzvi Gilat]

[Text] Planned construction starts in the territories next fiscal year will be halved compared to this year. A decision to this effect was made in a meeting of the most senior economics officials. The Treasury maintains that it looks like the prime minister is inclined to accept this.

Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i, who was among those who pushed for the decision, argued that Israel cannot, for budgetary as well as political reasons, maintain this year's accelerated building momentum any longer. During that meeting it was also stated that in view of the compromise that appears to be emerging regarding the U.S. loan guarantees, according to which in the coming year Israel will receive 2 billion shekels minus expenses for the settlements, Treasury officials have worked out a proposal to slash building starts next year by approximately 50 percent so as to minimize the sum that will be deducted from the aid money.

The crisis in relations with the United States over the settlements and the loan guarantees last year led to hectic economic activity in the government. Also, the rise in demand for foreign currency has forced the leading economists to seek ways to stem this trend and allay fears about relations with the United States. High-ranking economists were consequently summoned to discuss the problems. Top Treasury officials contended that this year's building starts in the territories went far and above the economy's capacity and that there is absolutely no way the current scope could be sustained for long. They added that Israel must receive the U.S. loan guarantees; otherwise, the economy may find itself in an state of spiraling inflation and rising unemployment.

Top Finance Ministry officials reported that parts of the proposal have been brought to the attention of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and that he did not reject them outright. They claim that the prime minister is also seeking ways to warm relations with the Americans. He may consequently adopt the proposal and examine whether the United States is prepared to accept it as a compromise solution in view of its demand for a settlement freeze.

"This offer portrays us as both just and honorable," the top Finance Ministry officials added, meaning that this will not imply capitulation to the United States but merely reflects the budgetary constraints that necessitate a freeze of some settlement activity. Israel is simultaneously walking the extra mile to meet U.S. demands. According to these officials, Shamir may raise the proposal before the U.S. secretary of state as soon as in the next few days.

Tzvi Gilat adds that according to Peace Now, the number of building starts in the territories this year stands at 19,000. Work started on 16,000 of them before 1 September, and another 3,000 are planned for the next three months.

Arens Expects U.S. To 'Give Up' on Settlement

TA0110055191 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0505 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Report on address by Defense Minister Moshe Arens at a ceremony in Ari'el on 30 September, by Karmela Menashe—recorded]

[Text] [Menashe] Our enemies are those delaying peace—those who come with stones, knives, and firebombs in their hands, those who danced on the rooftops when the Scuds were falling here. There is only one answer to that: We are here, and we are violating no law, Minister Arens said.

[Arens] What law is being violated by the pioneers who settle in Samaria and Judaea, in Ari'el and 'Imanu'el, in Ma'ale Adumim, and anywhere in Judaea and Samaria? There is no such law.

[Menashe] Settlement in Judaea and Samaria is the groundwork for coexistence between Jews and Arabs in Eretz Yisra'el, Arens added, saying: There are disagreements with the Americans, and I have told them that if there are disagreements over issues they consider important, we will give up. We are expecting them to give up when the issues are of importance to us.

[Arens] During the Gulf war, during the crisis before this war, we had disagreements on whether Israel should take action; should the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] retaliate or, as the U.S. President asked, should we act with restraint? In that debate, when no side could change the other side's mind, eventually we told the U.S. Administration: You are saying that this is a very important issue for you, so we will give up.

And now, we are telling the U.S. Administration: Our settlement in Judaea and Samaria is very important for the State of Israel; we are expecting you to give up on this for us.

[In an earlier report on Arens' speech, Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 2100 GMT on 30 September noted: "Ron Nahman, head of the Ari'el local council, said during the ceremony that the construction of a new neighborhood with 1,500 housing units began in Ari'el on Friday. This is the answer to the pressures currently being applied on Israel to freeze settlements, Ron Nahman said."]

Shamir Briefs Likud Group Before Visit to Egypt

TA0110114491 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Oct 91 p A2

[Report by Gid'on Alon]

[Text] The Likud delegation which is scheduled to leave tomorrow to visit Egypt at the invitation of Deputy Prime Minister Butrus Ghali plans to call on the Egyptian Government to support the U.S. President's call for the United Nations to repeal the resolution equating Zionism with racism. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir supports this demand.

The delegation—headed by Knesset Member [MK] Sara Doron, who heads the party's Knesset faction; MK Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, chairman of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee; and including MK's 'Uzi Landau and Hayim Kaufman—conferred with

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir two days ago. Ideas and assessments regarding an improvement in Israeli-Egyptian relations and the promotion of the peace process were exchanged in that meeting.

Shamir told the delegation members that he attributes great importance to exchanges of ministerial and parliamentary delegations from both countries. He claims Israel is on the brink of open and direct negotiations, without preconditions, with the Arab countries.

Shamir stressed that the substance will be determined in negotiations between the region's countries and that it will be impossible to force Israel to do anything against its will. He added that "negotiations are meant to give each side an opportunity to persuade the other party. It is not a forum to execute UN resolutions." He pointed out that "we insisted that our counterpart be a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. There was reason for that because Jordan is the central and most important element in the context of the Palestinian population residing in Eretz Yisra'el."

Doron emphasized that during the visit to Egypt, the Likud delegation intends to invite an Egyptian parliamentary delegation for a reciprocal visit to Israel. She claimed that this would constitute an additional step toward the promotion of Middle East peace.

MK Ben-Elisar, who was Israel's first ambassador to Egypt, said that "Egypt cannot come and demand that we put an end to settlement activity in the territories in exchange for the revocation of the Arab boycott, because in the 10 years since the establishment of peace, the Egyptians have not ended it."

During the two-day visit, the delegation will meet with Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister Butrus Ghali; the other deputy prime minister; Agriculture Minister Yusuf Wali; members of the Egyptian parliament's foreign affairs and defense committee; members of the People's Assembly; Kamal Hasan 'Ali, who was prime minister during the Camp David talks' and former Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil.

Egypt Said Violating Accord on Refugees Transfer

TA2909205591 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
29 Sep 91 p A1

[Report by Eytan Rabin]

[Text] A few days ago Israel stopped returning Palestinian refugees from the Canada camp on the Egyptian side of Rafah to Tall al-Sultan in the Gaza Strip because the Egyptian authorities refuse to grant each Palestinian family $12,000 to build a house on the Israeli side.

A few days ago defense establishment leaders instructed the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] to stop the return of the Palestinian refugees. The instruction was issued with the knwoledge and approval of Defense Minister Moshe Arens, and senior government elements were also briefed.

Senior defense establishment sources told HA'ARETZ that a provision in one of the clauses of the Camp David accords signed by Israel and Egypt stipulates that Israel will absorb 525 Palestinian families living in Egyptian Rafah. The families were slated to move into the Tall al-Sultan area on the Israeli side of Rafah.

According to the agreement, Egypt undertook to give each family $12,000 to enable it to build a house in the Gaza Strip. The first two refugee families moved from the Canada camp to their new houses in the Tall al-Sultan neighborhood in July 1990 and, according to the agreement, five families were supposed to move to Israel every week. Until now, about 70 families, totaling about 150 Palestinians, have moved into Israel since the start of the refugees transfer operation. Defense establishment elements said yesterday that Israel stopped it because the Egyptians have not abided by the agreement.

The elements estimated that this resulted from the dire economic straits Egypt is facing.

The 70 families who have moved into Tall al-Sultan so far have received the money and live in the neighborhood. Now that additional families were supposed to be arriving, it transpired that they had received no money and were therefore barred from moving into Israel.

Palestinian Notables React to PNC Resolutions

TA2909154191 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
29 Sep 91 p A2

[Text] Opinions are divided among Palestinian notables in the territories regarding the resolution by the Palestine National Council [PNC] to give Baker an affirmative answer. At the same time, all notables believe that there is no chance that the intifadah will stop at this stage.

A. Dr. Riyad al-Maliki of Ramallah, who is identified with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP]: " 'Arafat and his people cheated in using Bush's and Baker's speeches to convince opponents of the peace conference.

"I am not happy about the resolution which, I believe, does not represent public opinion in the territories. I do not accept it. I am calling for a referendum in the territories and outside them. The PNC declaration is not worth the paper it was printed on."

As for the possibility of halting the intifadah, he said: "In my opinion, both those who want to go to the peace conference and those who oppose it will now aspire to escalate the intifadah, the former to obtain more in the negotiations, the latter to express their opposition to the process."

B. Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj: "This is a clear yes to the Palestinians' participation in the peace conference.

This is a wise decision, which paves the road to peace. We are now waiting for the PLO Executive Committee to conclude its coordination efforts with Jordan on the composition of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation."

As to whether the intifadah will stop now, he replied: "Only in a few weeks, after the PLO and Jordan decide on the delegation and after Baker revisits the region, will we know if a significant change will take place on this matter. In my opinion, there will be no big changes here before the residents of the territories see progress in the peace process."

C. Dr. al-Agha of the Gaza Strip, a Fatah follower and a member of the Palestinian delegation to the talks with Baker: "This is a good resolution, just as we had expected. It removed hurdles to the convocation of the peace conference. I believe that following our positive reply, Israel will now have to make a similar decision. There is no connection between the peace process and the intifadah. The intifadah erupted to bring about an end to occupation, and it will stop when real moves to this end take place in the area."

D. Bassam al-Sa'ih, son of Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, the PNC speaker, who is a Fatah supporter but still belongs in the camp of opponents to the conference: "All Palestinians should accept the PNC's majority opinion. The ball is in Israel's court now. There will be an escalation in the intifadah in the near future."

E. 'Ali 'Abdallah Abu-Hilal, a supporter of Nayif Hawatimah's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestinian, the former deportee who was returned to the territories in exchange for the body of Israeli MIA Samir As'ad: "Many in the territories agree to this resolution. I hope that all parties to the conflict will adopt similar decisions, which will make a just peace in the Middle East possible." According to him, the intifadah will stop only if "our national rights are recognized in the peace conference."

[Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 29 September, in a page A2 report by Eytan Rabin and news agencies, adds: "Territories leaders who are affiliated with the mainstream PLO expressed their satisfaction with the PNC resolution to participate in the peace conference, saying this is a turning point that will promote peace. In contrast, leaders affiliated with Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] the PFLP, and other Palestinian organizations who oppose the peace process condemned the resolution.

"As'ad al-Saftawi, one of the leading figures in the Gaza Strip, yesterday said that this is a historic moment which will bring peace to our region. According to him, the PNC resolutions are positive from the viewpoint of the Palestinian people, and this is the moment awaited by numerous leaders and residents in the territories."]

Chief of Staff on Iraq, Syria, Territories

TA2909165191 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT (SIMHAT TORA supplement) in Hebrew 29 Sep 91 pp 2, 3, 14

[Interview with Lieutenant General Ehud Baraq, chief of staff, by Ron Ben-Yishay; place and date not given]

[Excerpt] [Ben-Yishay] Ehud Baraq, what lesson do you draw from the UN observers' finds about Saddam Husayn's efforts to produce a nuclear bomb?

[Baraq] The lesson is that it is vital to strip Saddam Husayn, both the man and his regime, of absolutely all items they possess. Conditions should also be created to deprive them of the ability to repeat this effort in the foreseeable future.

[Ben-Yishay] When you say "Saddam Husayn, both the man and his regime," do you also mean that both this man and his regime should be toppled?

[Baraq] It is not enough for Saddam Husayn to be replaced while the regime and its objectives remain the same. The know-how in Iraq, the capabilities as they are daily uncovered, will enable the Iraqis to move forward from a new starting line, which will be very problematic, since it means that within several years we may face an Iraq with a certain nuclear capability.

[Ben-Yishay] Do you think that the United States erred in not pursuing the war until the overthrow of Saddam Husayn?

[Baraq] I would not want to judge the Americans. It seems to me, though, that the U.S. leadership as well is clearly aware of matters and understands the gravity of the possibility that Saddam Husayn will shake off his defeat in a few years and, like the legendary phoenix, emerge as a regional element with a nuclear capability.

[Ben-Yishay] In your estimation, are they trying to overthrow him?

[Baraq] I cannot enter such assessments, but it seems to me that consistent pressure in very important directions is being applied to him.

[Ben-Yishay] What about other countries? Iran, Algeria, Libya, and Pakistan are said to possess nuclear capability. Are you worried about these efforts to obtain nuclear weapons?

[Baraq] I would not want to enter technical details. It is the very intention to reach such capability that is very troubling, even if these countries still face long years before they materialize their intention. The Iraqis' achievements are a motivating factor, both from the ability to demonstrate a scientific achievement and the theoretical threat they pose to other countries, such as Iran. This further stresses the importance of nipping these efforts in the bud, as early as in their Iraqi version. These efforts must absolutely be cut off.

[Ben-Yishay] If the United States decides to launch a military operation against Iraq, do you believe Scuds will fall here?

[Baraq] I would not like to try and guess or predict such things, but there are still hundreds of Scud missiles in Iraq. I do not know how many of them are of the al-Husayn type, which can reach the State of Israel from Iraqi territory. Our working assumption is that they have missiles, and we know that they also have both mobile and stationary launchers. As for Saddam Husayn's considerations about whether to use them or not: These are not easy considerations, and I hope he is well aware of the difference between the present situation and the situation during the Gulf war.

[Ben-Yishay] Do you believe the Americans intend to act on their threats against Iraq?

[Baraq] The transfer of Patriot missile batteries to Saudi Arabia may be part of a U.S. signal to the Iraqis that their talk of an ultimatum points to readiness to use force, if necessary. There is quite a good chance that this conceivably reliable U.S. readiness to use force will indeed prevent the need to use it.

[Ben-Yishay] If the United States decides to act, do you believe we will receive prior information about such an intention? Will we have enough time to prepare for the possibility that Scuds will be launched toward Israel?

[Baraq] Common sense makes it possible to believe we will certainly have an early warning.

[Ben-Yishay] When will Israel be prepared to cope with the threat of missiles and nonconventional weapons against our home front? When will you be able to state with certainty that the home front has reasonable protection?

[Baraq] Our deployment against surface-to-surface missiles consists of several elements. Some of them are offensive. I am referring to the ability to act to suppress the launch of missiles toward us from deep in the enemy's territory, from a distance of hundreds of kilometers. This is a very complex operational problem, but we have already attained quite a considerable capability in this sphere. Still, we need to adapt this offensive capability to prevailing circumstances if and when this threat materializes. This capability also requires improvement in light of the lessons drawn from U.S. activity during the Gulf war. Naturally, I do not want to go into details.

[Ben-Yishay] Is this a hint that we have a new offensive capability that did not exist during the Gulf war?

[Baraq] No. This is a capability we already possessed at that time, but it suited the Gulf war situation when about 1,500 U.S. planes flew the Iraqi skies, when the entire Iraqi Army was based in Kuwait, and so on and so forth. In the future we may encounter a different reality. We may very well have to handle alone the challenge of surface-to-surface missiles launched from a distance of 500 or 700 km, while at the same time waging, on our own again, a very intensive ground battle. Such a situation may confront us with a much more complex operational problem than that which existed during the Gulf war, when the Americans were in the area. The solution should meet the possibility of such a war rather than the previous war. It is clear I cannot enter details on this issue.

There are also defensive elements in our deployment vis-a-vis the missile threat. These focus on the Arrow antimissile system, with its attendant early warning and fire control systems. These systems are in initial stages of development, and we anticipate that the development effort will not result in an initial operational capability before the start of the second half of this decade. The full deployment of these systems in the framework of the home front defense setup will be completed in the second half of the decade, if the development effort follows its main parameters and if the timetable and budget estimates are more or less maintained. If these conditions are met, this project will make an important contribution not only to the physical defense of the State of Israel but also to the feeling of security of both the Israeli public and decisionmakers, on the eve of a war and during it as well.

[Ben-Yishay] Mr. Chief of Staff, in my question I was trying to find out whether in the next war the Israeli home front will be provided with an umbrella giving it a good defense against nonconventional missile capability.

[Baraq] If the next war takes place in a year, then it will have no defense other than that provided during the previous war. There may be certain improvements in technical preparations, and we are working on them now, but in general it should be assumed that it will be technically possible to launch missiles at our home front. At the same time, I assume that if missiles are launched at us in the context of an Israeli-Arab war, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] will take offensive action against them, and it should be expected that a significant decline in the scope of the missile launchings will be obtained within a certain time after the start of the war. Again, for understandable reasons, I would not like to elaborate on how long it would take us to achieve this.

Nevertheless, if the next war occurs in, say, 10 years, and some of the developments we have discussed succeed, then there is a chance that a very large number of the missiles launched against us will fail to reach their target.

[Ben-Yishay] In your estimation, do the Arab countries, mainly Syria, seriously intend to reach a political settlement with us?

[Baraq] I cannot answer this question since it in fact requires an ability which I do not pretend to have, to enter the head and mind of al-Asad and a very limited group of people in Syria. I would not be surprised, however, if al-Asad intends to achieve at the negotiating table the goals he cannot achieve on the battlefield. Nevertheless, I also think he is realistic enough to

understand that we have vital interests and there is no real way of forcing us into ceding them at the negotiating table either.

[Ben-Yishay] Is there anything in the Syrian Army's current deployment or in the nature of its training to indicate that Syria is heading toward political negotiations?

[Baraq] No. If we had not been aware of al-Asad's political activity, declarations, and television interviews, if we had had to judge his views only by the Syrian Army's actions and internal processes, we would not have noticed any change. The Syrian Army is engaged in quite intensive training, of an offensive nature as well. It is working on a deal to procure several hundred T-72 tanks from Czechoslovakia. It is holding contacts to purchase a modern fighter plane from the USSR, as well as Scud-C missiles, with a range of about 500 km and with precise warheads, from North Korea. Thus, what is happening in the Syrian Army itself, its activity and military buildup, does not indicate that the current emphasis is on political negotiations. Still, one cannot draw a conclusion about the overall picture from a single aspect of the activities of the type of regime we are dealing with.

[Ben-Yishay] If serious deliberations on a political arrangement on the Golan Heights are reached, what will your basic security demands be?

[Baraq] This is clearly a political subject, and I believe it would be inappropriate and improper for a chief of staff in uniform to address himself to it publicly. I will naturally state my position: The IDF will express its position when this matter becomes topical. At the same time, it is clear that in the current situation, as long as there are no deep and fundamental changes in the overall reality around us, the Golan Heights have been and remain a first-rate security asset for the State of Israel.

[Ben-Yishay] Do you have clear knowledge today of the effectiveness of the sophisticated precision weapons the Americans used in the Gulf war?

[Baraq] From the viewpoint of destroying targets, I believe it was several dozen percent of the targets. I cannot say whether this was 25 or 35 percent, but that was the result of few percent of the sorties. In a sense, this war demonstrated rather than materialized the potential of these weapons.

[Ben-Yishay] Why then could the Americans not stop the Scud launchings?

[Baraq] I cannot point to a precise number of reasons, since up to now there has been no....[changes thought] It seems to me it would not be proper on my part to recount publicly my incomplete impressions.

[Ben-Yishay] Could we have done the job?

[Baraq] I believe that in the conditions prevailing in west Iraq during the Gulf war we could have achieved a very significant decrease in the number of launchings within several days.

[Ben-Yishay] Was it a mistake for us not to do so?

[Baraq] No. If such an action had been influenced by technical, operational considerations only, it should and would have been taken, but it was part of a much larger number of considerations, mostly political, which were correct and justified even in retrospect, I believe.

[Ben-Yishay] Numerous cracks emerged during the Gulf war in an important component of power here: the home front's ability to resist psychologically. Do you have any idea how this phenomenon can be handled so as not to recur?

[Baraq] I think our society is much stronger than what the picture of the home front's behavior during the Gulf war theortecally implies. That was a truly unique situation in which the IDF was fortunately not involved in fighting on the front, and attention and anxiety were disproportionately focused on the threat of missiles to the home front. Things will be different in the context of an overall war. The view of things will be more balanced then. In my opinion, if our society in the future finds itself in a war involving even harder blows to the home front than those we experienced, we will all discover that our society is much stronger than it seemed this time.

[Ben-Yishay] It is claimed, regarding both the Israeli and the U.S. intelligence communities, that they did not fully meet expectations during the Gulf war.

[Baraq] I do not fully accept this claim. I think it partly stems from a basic misunderstanding of the way in which the intelligence community operates and its limitations.

[Ben-Yishay] What do you expect of our intelligence?

[Baraq] I do not expect our intelligence, nor that of any country, to manage to paint the full picture of activity that an autocratic regime invests very great efforts to systematically cover up. I surely do not expect it to be able to come up with discoveries on the intentions of systems that are protected by very tight domestic security belts and involve a few decisionmakers who maintain absolute secrecy for good reasons.

I do expect the intelligence organizations to distribute correctly and effectively their resources among the various efforts and to follow correct priorities. All in all, our intelligence system meets this requirement.

[Ben-Yishay] What is the IDF answer to the increased use of arms by the intifadah activists?

[Baraq] I attach a great deal of importance to a change in the pattern of action in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza, from the point of view of emphasizing what is good or unique about the IDF: much less static and repetitious activity and much more flexible activity by regular forces who

are very familiar with the area in which they are active. These forces rely on intelligence in the area itself, and act on the basis of close and continual cooperation with the Shin Bet and the police. They focus their attention on the violent hard core of the intifadah, and have minimum friction with most of the population in the territories, who have significantly decreased their participation in riots and stoning incidents in recent months.

[Ben-Yishay] What developments do you anticipate in the territories in the coming year?

[Baraq] I believe we will witness a continuation of the trend of attempts by elements who do not take a favorable view of the political process and its chances to prove their ability through terrorist incidents in the area, making continual and greater use of firearms. We may also see actions by 'Arafat's Fatah. I would also not like us to delude ourselves about the degree of stability achieved in the sphere of mass riots. A single incident such as the Temple Mount [in October 1990] or the murder of Arabs by 'Ami Popper in Rishon Leziyyon a year or two earlier can easily shoot street violence up to the level we knew at the peak of the intifadah. This is the reality.

[Ben-Yishay] Can we ever reach a situation in the territories in which Israel exercises control but need not use military force to do so?

[Baraq] I do not think that it will be possible in the foreseeable future to maintain control that does not involve the presence of force. Ongoing action against the nucleii active within the population will be necessary.

[Ben-Yishay] Does this mean we are doomed to live by our sword?

[Baraq] This is a long, ongoing struggle, which will be decided by the degree of determination and breathing space the parties concerned will show. I believe we will win this struggle.

[Ben-Yishay] How will the victory look?

[Baraq] In my assessment, our victory will emerge when the population understands that by way of street violence or terrorist acts they will be unable to beat us militarily or dictate to us a political position that we do not accept. We will achieve this situation when our pace of adapting to changing conditions is faster than theirs. The question is how long the population in the territories can take this and expect achievements, when the operational balance of activity in the area does not lean in their favor.

[Ben-Yishay] What is the answer to this question?

[Baraq] In my opinion, we will emerge victors from this struggle in the long run. We do not have a panacea for ending the intifadah, but its violent actvists will never force us into doing anything or adopting any position unacceptable to us. [passage omitted]

U.S. Urged To Withdraw Weapons From Israel

JN0110094491 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 1 Oct 91 pp 1, 24

[Editorial: "The Israeli Arsenal Is an Obstacle to Peace"]

[Text] Although the U.S. decision to reduce the nuclear weapons in the U.S. arsenal was received with broad international satisfaction, yet results of this decision on the Arabs will be limited unless it is accompanied by an important step. This step is represented in the U.S. withdrawing all nonconventional and sophisticated weapons stockpiled by the United States in Israel's arsenal during and after the Gulf crisis.

There is also a need for Washington to freeze the Israeli nuclear activity and eliminate Israeli nuclear weapons, especially since the general trend in the Soviet Union and the nuclear European countries at present is toward reducing their nonconventional wepons. There is no reason, therefore, to allow Israel to remain the only nuclear power in the region. It is noteworthy that Israel still refuses to join the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and refuses to open its atomic installations for inspection.

It is important to recall that eliminating the unconventional weapons, which are stockpiled in the Israeli arsenal, would help facilitate the peace process because it is fully compatible with, and is even one of its basic requisites. If Washington moves in this direction before the start of the peace process, it will be making a step that is no less important than freezing U.S. loan guarantees to Israel and will show U.S. determination to make the peace process succeed in a way that opens new horizons for U.S. credibility on the Arab level.

The Israeli military arsenal is one of the most serious regional threats. The time has come for Washington to relinquish this arsenal and it can start by withdrawing the U.S. weapons stockpiled in Israel. Peace does not require warehouses of weapons at the disposal of the Israeli aggressors. Peace requires serious measures to tame these aggressors and force them to heed international legitimacy. Foremost of these measures is to trim the aggressors' nuclear nails and end their regional military superiority, which has been and still is one of the main factors keeping peace away from the region for decades.

Bush's Decision To Resume Aid to Amman Reported

JN2709202791 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] News agencies report from Washington that U.S. President George Bush has notified the Congress that he decided to release U.S. military aid to Jordan, which the Congress froze in April. In a message to the Congress, the U.S. President said Jordan took a sound and clear position on the Middle East process, and that a halt to the freeze of military aid will reflect positively on the peace process.

Hope for New Relations Between Arabs, U.S.

JN2809080391 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 28 Sep 91 pp 1, 27

[Editorial: "We Deal With the U.S. Position With Interest, Not Illusions"]

[Text] If the statement attributed to President Bush—which included a call to recognize the Palestinian people's political rights—proves to be true, and if it proves to be true that the U.S. President sees in the UN resolutions, including Resolutions 242 and 338, the basis upon which the peace process must be based, the result will then suggest that the U.S. position on the peace process is witnessing a positive change that deserves to be noted and welcomed.

Of course, that interest does not mean hanging on to illusions. Mixing between hopes and what the U.S. position may turn up to be is one of the impermissible things which Arabs should avoid. At the same time, it must be stressed that there is no need to show inflexibility toward, or ignore any real development in the U.S. position, especially if such a development is coupled with an act that confirms its seriousness.

No one denies the fact that Arab masses have suspicions about the U.S. intentions. They have bitter feelings that grew and intensified over many years as a result of events. But, it is also true that the same masses do not embrace animosity toward the United States as a faith. The aggressive Israeli practices, with their challenges of international legitimacy, terrorism against the Palestinian people, usurpation of their land, and ceaseless attempts to deprive them of their identity, were responsible for creating that atmosphere of animosity, tension, and fear which prevailed in the region for decades, and which still prevails now.

If the U.S. dealings in the peace process succeed in enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their national political rights over their land, and in making the international resolutions, concerning the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli dispute, a basis for that process, then real peace would undoubtedly prevail in the region and this will usher in the beginning of a new chapter of relations between the United States and the Arabs.

King, 'Arafat Discuss PNC 'Positive Results'

JN3009154891 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn contacted his brother His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, by telephone yesterday evening. The conversation dealt with the positive results of the recent Palestine National Council [PNC] session in Algiers, and the developments in the peace efforts to settle the Middle East crisis.

Columnist Criticizes Arab 'Intellectuals'

JN3009111891 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 30 Sep 91 p 18

["Orbits" column by Dr. Samir Qatami: "Two Scenes and a Position"]

[Text] I was amazed by the long queue of people resigned to their fate outside the U.S. Embassy on Jabal Amman hoping for a visa to enter the promised land. It was after 1000. The Embassy security man in his special uniform was exercising his power to give instructions and orders to the coerced people planted on the pavement since before dawn. I felt that this queue represented the entire nation practicing the rituals of penance for a sin, and the rituals of repentance because one person had had the courage to raise the slogan "Arab oil is for the Arabs."

My brother drew my attention to the scene on the opposite pavement. Through the car window, I saw a few men with European or American features standing with placards in English and Arabic calling for lifting the embargo on the children of Iraq. The citizens passed by them as if the issue did not concern them.

Both scenes provoked me. The scene of those begging to the one who launched the worst war in history on us, slaughtered our children, and buried our soldiers and wounded under the sand. They beg to be allowed to travel to their country, the land of milk and honey! And, the second scene of those who suffered the hardships of travel and the expense of accommodation to alert us and the entire world to the barbarity of what is being done to the Iraqi people in the name of modern civilization, without there being any bonds between us in terms of language, race, homeland, creed, or culture. They came to tell us: Why do you remain silent about the barbaric crimes being committed against you!

These two scenes brought to mind an argument we had had some days ago about the role of the Arab intellectual in the crucial battle. One of those present, noting the weakness of the role of the Arab intellectual, wondered: Does this intellectual differ from other intellectuals in the world? Another person wondered: Why is the Arab intellectual satisfied with salon theorizing and casuistic arguments without bloodying his hands or ever coming close to martyrdom? A third person answered that some Arab intellectuals had suffered and were imprisoned so we should not be unjust to them. A fourth person said: I will tell you a story that happened to me, and you may make your judgment later. Some years ago, I was preparing for my doctorate at Cambridge University in Britain. I had an Irish friend with whom I used to discuss political issues. He once expressed a position in support of Israel. I became enraged, and began to explain the justice of our cause. I explained emotionally what he was unaware of in terms of the chapters of the Zionist conspiracy against Palestine, its usurpation from its kinsfolk by force, the Zionist expansion and hegemony, and the deportation of the Palestinian people all over the world. After over 20 minutes of explanation, clarification, and emotions my friend surprised me by saying: Since you believe so much in the justice of your cause and right, why are you here? If I believed in your ideas as much as you, you would not find me here with you at the university. Rather, I would be helping to liberate my homeland from the usurpers!

Our friend said: His words fell on me like a stroke of lightning. How small I felt, so I preferred to remain silent and withdraw.

Is this not the case with intellectuals in the Arab world? Do you not see them stir us in the mornings with their fiery articles against the alliance countries and the barbarity of the embargo, yet they appear in the evenings with their happy and joyful faces and perfumed clothes at the parties held by the embassies of the alliance countries where drinks are mixed with women, money, espionage, and buying consciences as if their tongues are saying: What is said in the morning is wiped out by the night, or, hear what we say but do not do what we do!?

As dawn broke, Shahrazad stopped telling her story!

Al-Murr Goes to Damascus To Discuss UN Visit

NC2909145591 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Defense Minister Michel al-Murr left for Damascus at noon today to meet with senior Syrian officials and discuss the outcome of the presidential delegation's visit to New York and other developments.

Others Travel to Damascus

NC0110074391 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] Prime Minister 'Umar Karami visited Damascus last night and met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam to discuss the outcome of the Lebanese delegation's visit to New York and the efforts being made to implement UN Resolution 425.

Amal Movement leader Minister Nabih Birri also held talks yesterday with Syrian Vice President Khaddam in Damascus on the situation in Lebanon.

Health and Social Affairs Minister Dr. Jamil Kibbi has returned from Damascus following talks with Khaddam. He also met with Syrian Health Minister Dr. Iyad al-Shatti in the presence of the Omani health minister and his accompanying delegation.

Tourism Minister Talal Arslan also returned from Damascus yesterday following talks with Khaddam.

Karami Holds News Conference on National Issues

NC0110092791 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] At a news conference today Prime Minister 'Umar Karami said that Lebanon will not negotiate on Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon and that Lebanon will not allow Israel to use its water because Lebanon is in dire need of water itself.

Karami noted that the results achieved during the New York talks will be finalized in a message, not an agreement. President Bush will send a message emphasizing U.S. policy and trends to each country that will take part in the peace conference.

Asked about reports on U.S. pressure on Israel to withdraw from the south in return for stopping resistance operations, Karami said that the government believes the continued occupation is the cause of the resistance. When the occupation ends, he said, there will be no reason for resistance. The issue of a simultaneous Syrian-Israeli withdrawal was not submitted to the Lebanese delegation during its New York talks. Karami noted that the government will do its duty when the occupation of the south ends.

In response to a question on the calls for all foreign forces to withdraw from Lebanon, Karami said that no one is more concerned than the government about Lebanon's sovereignty and independence. He called for people to distinguish between the Israeli and Syrian Armies, noting that the Israeli Army's withdrawal is governed by Security Council Resolution 425 whereas the Syrian Army withdrawal is governed by the al-Ta'if accord. He said that the provisions of this accord will be implemented.

Karami said that the Lebanese Government will not negotiate with Major General Antoine Lahd over Jazzin because he is in a different position than other militias, noting that Land's situation has been created by Israel.

Karami described the evacuees issue as a major national issue, noting that the government wants a comprehensive solution to this issue, not one that only serves a certain faction. Karami said that at tomorrow's cabinet meeting he will submit a practical plan to form a ministerial committee to address the evacuees issue.

Hizballah Denies Returning Israeli MIA Bodies

NC2809155791 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Hizballah today denied reports on the handing over of bodies of two Jewish soldiers in a swap with Israel. The party asserted that these reports are totally groundless.

A Jewish magazine published in Switzerland yesterday reported that the bodies of the two Israeli soldiers had been delivered and that they are now being kept at the forensic medicine institute at Vienna's university.

Al-Shar', al-Hirawi Discuss Resolution 425

JN2809072791 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0715 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] New York—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' met with Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi in New York last night. Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz attended. Discussion centered on current developments in the region and the contacts to implement UN Security Council Resolution 425, which calls for Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon. They also discussed the efforts to convene the peace conference.

Foreign Minister al-Shar' also met last night with Iranian Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati. They discussed international developments, current conditions in the region, and issues of mutual concern.

Foreign Ministry on Israeli Golan Violations

JN2509064891 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Sep 91

[Text] New York, 24 Sep (SANA)—A document was released this morning at the United Nations containing the statement issued by the Syrian Foreign Ministry on Israeli practices that violate the human rights of Syrian Arab citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan. The statement asks the United Nations to put an end to these violations and to work for the release of the prisoners, citizens of the occupied Golan.

Following is the full text of the statement as it was circulated by the UN General Secretariat to the member states as an official document:

Israel has continued its occupation of the Syrian Golan since 1967. It has imposed its laws, administration, and rule on the Golan and annexed it in December 1981, flinging the gauntlet in the face of international legitimacy, particularly UN Security Council Resolution 497 of 1981 and other pertinent UN resolutions which reject and condemn the acquisition of territory by force and deem the Israeli decision to impose its laws, administration, and rule on the occupied Syrian Golan illegal and null and void.

Needless to say, Israel's refusal to comply with UN resolutions and withdraw from the occupied Syrian Golan and end its annexation of the Golan as the occupying authority, violates UN resolutions, disregards the will of the international community, and threatens regional and international peace and security. In addition, the Israeli occupation authorities' continuation of their repressive measures and the escalation of their inhuman practices against Syrian citizens in the occupied Golan represent a flagrant violation of the pertinent provisions of the Fourth Hague Agreement of 1907 and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 on the protection of civilians in wartime.

As is well known, other relevant UN and Security Council resolutions have asserted that the provisions of all these international and humanitarian conventions completely apply in the case of the occupied Syrian territory in the Golan and other occupied Arab territories.

In addition to their persistence in violating human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan, and imposing arbitrary and unjust measures against the Syrian citizens who are under occupation and reject the annexation of the Golan and bearing Israeli identity cards, the Israeli occupation authorities have been detaining 27 people from the occupied Syrian Golan for a long time (enclosed is a list of the names of the detainees) because these people rejected Israeli occupation and held fast to their national identity and their deep-rooted allegiance to their motherland, Syria.

The Syrian Arab Republic hopes that the necessary efforts would be made to put an end to the practices of the Israeli occupation authorities and their violations of human rights, ensure their commitment to international and humanitarian conventions and charters, and secure the immediate release of the detainees, whose only crime was that they rejected imposing Israeli laws on them, which made the Israeli occupation authorities take them to special courts where they were handed down unjust sentences.

U.S. Cuts Highlight Israeli 'Aggressiveness'

JN0110071691 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 1 Oct 91

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "There Can Be No Peace Without the Restoration of Land," the newspaper TISHRIN says: At a time when the world is witnessing further signs of relaxation, and when concerted efforts are being made to resolve all hot issues, Israel continues to exacerbate the situation in the Middle East and perpetrate a host of practices that will inevitably lead to large-scale explosions. U.S. President George Bush has recently announced unilateral nuclear arms reductions, including the elimination of all short-range weapons. The USSR welcomed this important step and is about to adopt similar measures to enhance the climate of peace and stability on our planet. Many states praised this peaceful posture. Meanwhile, Israeli leaders declared that if they were to choose between retaining the occupied Arab territories and peace, they would choose to retain the Arab territories. By so doing, they are showing a desire to maintain the occupation and usurpation, and to persist in acts of aggression, repression, and displacement.

TISHRIN adds: Israeli policies are not only diametrically opposed to world trends and the international climate of relaxation, they threaten what has been recently accomplished regarding the consolidation of peace and enhancement of cooperation among various states.

The paper goes on to say: It is clear that the Zionist policy flouts all principles and charters. It has even failed to heed the very U.S. interests. The United States has provided Israel with immense aid and assistance. In contrast, Israel inflicted tremendous harm on the reputation and interests of the United States in the Middle East.

Concluding its commentary, TISHRIN says: Given its international responsibilities and its special relationship with Israel, the United States is urged to work to curb the aggressiveness of the Tel Aviv rulers. Similarly, the whole world is urged to raise its voice and intensify its pressures, as there can be no true peace and stability unless there is peace and stability in the Middle East. There can be no peace and stability in the Middle East unless the occupied Arab territories are retrieved, and unless the Palestinian people's rights are restored.

U.S. 'Credibility' at Risk Over Israeli Loan

JN2909052791 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0330 GMT 29 Sep 91

[From the press review]

[Text] In its issue today, the newspaper TISHRIN writes about Israel's aggressive political obstacles, especially its settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories. The paper says: Zionist settlements and the request for loans to help absorb Soviet Jews in the occupied territories represent a true conspiracy against U.S. peace efforts. In fact, they are part of a conspiracy against the United States itself. This is because if Washington approves the Israeli request, it will find itself involved in Israel's declared war against the Palestinian people, Syria, and the Arab nation. Consequently, it will lose any and all of its credibility. It has been proven time and again that Israel has never cared about international values and principles, and not even about U.S. interests. It is high time the United States reviewed all aspects of its relations with Israel.

Arabs Urged To Exploit U.S.-Israeli 'Battle'

JN2809074791 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0330 GMT 28 Sep 91

[From the press review]

[Text] In an editorial today under the headline "A Test of Power and Influence," the newspaper AL-THAWRAH deals with the battle between the U.S. Administration on the one hand and Israel and the Jewish lobby on the other. AL-THAWRAH says: When President al-Asad said that it was unacceptable that the Zionist lobby make decisions in the United States on behalf of the U.S. people, he wanted to say that any decision pressured by Israel must be against the American people's national interests. This is exactly how the current battle in America appears.

AL-THAWRAH adds: When President Bush specifies the dimensions of that battle by saying that he does not accept Israel making decisions in the United States in the interest of Israel and against the United States, he wants to involve the American people in U.S. decisionmaking for the first time in U.S. history and numerous administrations, which have submitted—even in internal decisions—to the will of the Congress whenever it had anything to do with Israel.

In its editorial, AL-THAWRAH indicates that self-important Israel has fallen victim to its stupidities in the test of political influence against President Bush.

AL-THAWRAH believes that within its current framework, the battle must end in Bush's favor, and that the test of power and influence must be won by Bush.

Concluding, AL-THAWRAH says: Knowing, however, that the United States takes nothing but its interests into consideration, it is important that the Arabs, through various and available means, develop this limited test to a more comprehensive test affecting the future of the U.S.-Israeli relations and the future of Israel from a U.S. perspective.

Strong Arab Coordination for Conference Urged

JN0110061991 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 1 Oct 91

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The International Conference and the Required Arab Stance," the newspaper AL-BA'TH says: As part of the intensive, and perhaps final, preparations for convening an international Middle East peace conference, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker is preparing for an eighth tour of the region. This tour could be the last before the convocation of the conference, as observers expect.

AL-BA'TH adds: Details of the positions of all parties on the peace process and the international conference have become well known. It is only natural, therefore, for the U.S. secretary to endeavor first and foremost to settle outstanding issues, since failure to resolve them might create difficulties that could hinder the convening of the conference on schedule. However, it can be safely said that preparations for the international conference have entered a decisive phase that could lead to its convocation within the next two months, as expected. What then is the Arab position regarding all this?

Concluding its editorial, AL-BA'TH says: Now that the final touches are being put on the venue and date of the international conference, as well as the terms for its convocation, we urge the Arabs not to be content with meeting the minimal requirements of joint Arab action. The Arabs should seek to achieve the maximum possible inter-Arab coordination. By so doing, we would win the respect of the world, as well as the appreciation of our nation, which has never grown accustomed to forfeiting

its rights. The Arab foreign ministers met and held intensive consultations on this issue on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly session. We strongly hope that efforts will continue to be made so that the pan-Arab duties will be performed with the highest possible sense of responsibility.

Israeli Plan To Call 'Early Elections' Assailed

JN3009162591 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Signs are that Tel Aviv is about to start a new game before the invitations go out, which all parties believe will be soon to open the peace conference late in October. In brief, many Zionist political circles have begun talking about early elections to form a new Israeli Government capable, according to Israeli sources, of bearing the burdens of peace, after the Shamir government, the same sources said, has become unable to take any steps toward peace.

Some Israelis said that the proposed peace idea deserves such elections to define Israel's final position on the basis of popular will, regardless of the nature of that position in terms of rejection or acceptance. This means, the sources added, that Israel has not yet defined its position on the peace conference or the idea of peace itself. All that has been said since early March and what has been achieved have been, in the view of the Israelis, wasted efforts to which the world was led, excluding Israel, its beliefs, and its real position.

He who considers these Israeli signs will find that the problem does not lie in early or late elections, which Israel used to exploit whenever it found itself in a political crisis. The core of the problem lies in peace itself and in what a just peace can do to Israel, which has tried, over the past months, to block the peace process and foil international efforts on all fronts. They began with the issue of Palestinian representation and ended with the issue of guarantees, which Israel created in American-Israeli relations, but which the international community rejected in order to complete the peace process and undermine all obstacles to the proposed peace conference. This has placed Tel Aviv in a difficult situation from which it cannot escape without challenging the whole world, accepting the will of the international community, and ending its disobedience in favor of peace. [as heard]

Hence, early elections are the latest procrastination, maneuver, and blackmail being used as a political demand by this or that faction inside and outside the Tel Aviv government to enlarge the circle and make early elections a necessity that cannot be avoided. As a result, decisionmaking in Israel will be blocked, the decisionmaker will be absent, and Israel's participation in the peace conference will be postponed indefinitely.

We do not care about these elections in Israel because we have nothing to do with them. Israel will remain as it is in the face of any change. The logic of expansion and aggression is an Israeli concept, on which neither hawks nor doves differ. Only if there are real doves in Israel. What concerns us is the principle of peace and what we and the world have achieved over the past months toward peace. The remaining time before the opening of the peace conference will not be enough for Israel to complete its maneuvers. It will only be enough for the removal of the last obstacles to what we seek and enough for the world to save the region from the evils of aggression, whose victim has always been our rights, which should be regained and our land that should be liberated whatever the circumstances.

UK Official Thanks Qaddur for Hostage Release

JN2809143091 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1115 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Nasir Qaddur, minister of state for foreign affairs, has received a letter from Douglas Hogg, British minister of state for foreign affairs, expressing the British Government's thanks to the Syrian Arab Republic Government for the important role and efforts it exerted and continues to exert to assist in the release of the hostages, including Jack Mann who was released last Tuesaday.

Afghanistan

Prime Minister Meets USSR's Pankin

LD2809161191 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0440 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Kabul, Sept 27, BAKHTAR—Fazl Haq Khaliqyar, prime minister of the RA [Republic of Afghanistan], while the RA foreign affairs minister was also present, met Boris Pankin, foreign affairs minister and chairman of the Soviet delegation to the 46th session of the UN General Assembly in New York on September 25, reports a BAKHTAR correspondent.

During the meeting, F. Khaliqyar spoke on the recent changes and developments occurred in Afghanistan and international tendency shown for the political and peaceful solution of the Afghan issue.

Khaliqyar expressed all-round support of the people and government of the Republic of Afghanistan to the five-point peace plan of the UN secretary general and the recent USA-USSR joint statement on Afghanistan. He considered them as constructive steps taken for the restoration of peace and security in Afghanistan.

While touching on relations and economic cooperation between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, Khaliqyar recalled that expansion of bilateral economic cooperation are in the interest of the people of the two countries as well as peace and stability in the region and in the globe.

Mr. Boris Pankin, in his turn, expressed his gratitude from the all-round support given by the RA state to the USA-USSR joint statement on Afghanistan. He [word indistinct] USA-USSR joint statement has given new hopes for the political and peaceful solution of the Afghan problem. B. Pankin expressed the hopes that all concerned countries in the Afghan issues should support it, and in the present favourable international climate, necessary measures be taken for the restoration of peace in Afghanistan.

The foreign affairs minister of the Soviet Union expressed intention of his country for the further strengthening of friendly relations and expansion of mutual cooperation in socio-economic fields. The cooperation develops between the two countries on the basis of mutual interests.

Meets With Officials in Bonn

LD0110094591 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Fazl Haq Khaleqyar and his accompanying delegation, after participating in the 46th session of the UN General Assembly and a brief stopover in Geneva, arrived in Bonn yesterday morning [29 September]. The prime minister and his delegation were welcomed at the Bonn-Koln international airport by the Afghan charge d'affaires, Dr. Shinwari, and members of the embassy.

Yesterday, the prime minister met with political and social personalities of Germany and discussed with them the speeding up of peace process in Afghanistan and understanding between Afghans. [passage omitted]

According to another report, Prime Minister Khaleqyar attended a dinner which was given in his honor by the Afghan charge d'affaires in Bonn.

Also yesterday, while the ministers of foreign affairs and finance were present, the prime minister met with a number of prominent Afghans residing in Germany. During the meeting, he spoke about the restoration of peace, the revitalization of the private sector of economy, legal guarantees and security for home and foreign investments, the adjustment of the free market economy in the country, providing changes in legal documents in the interest of the national economy and facilities for national investors and private traders, and national and international developments on the political solution of the question of Afghanistan.

He emphasized that Afghans, through unity and solidarity, should play their patriotic role toward putting an end to war and the revival of the Afghan economy.

Senate Urges Talks With Mojahedin

LD3009085991 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0508 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Kabul, Sep. 29, BAKHTAR—Since we are now at a historical destiny-making stage, therefore, we are inviting all national, religious, spiritual personalities, organisations and parties to perform their conscientious duties through national and international means for the political settlement of the Afghanistan issue in order to put an end to the long sufferings of our people. [Thus] says an announcement released by the Senate session of the National Assembly of the Republic of Afghanistan for the cessation of war and bloodshed and the ensuring of a nation-wide peace in the country, in Kabul today.

After several days of discussions, the general consensus was that the matter of national reconciliation and ceasefire between the sides and its subsequent stages cannot be separated, under the present conditions from the material and moral welfare of the people. Therefore, a number of concrete proposals are being sent to the government to give effect to it as soon as possible by consdering its legitimate authorities. The organisations, jihad formations and parties in view of respecting its principled and effective survival should prefer the people's interests over their personal and group interests, the announcement adds.

The National Assembly of the Republic of Afghanistan believes that the Geneva agreements, the United Nation's five-point plan and the recent Soviet-American statement are all the historical processes which can expedite the solution of the issue related to Afghanistan. However, the basic and real deliverance of our nation from this catastrophic war rests with the Afghans.

Arms cut-off to the warring sides is not sufficient, but it is necessary to shorten the time-frame fixed in the statement of the states and a precise operation must be set-up for its termination. Besides, the date for the immediate truce with giving international guarantees be determined, because the cessation of arms deliveries, does not change the intensification of war, it remarks. [sentence as recieved]

We request from the warring sides to avoid bombarding the country aimlessly by Scud and Sacker rockets and by other similar weapons, and should realize that they are annihilating the innocent people, and vanishing the cultural and economic establishments of the country. We are requesting the United Nations Organisation to confidently and whole heartedly fulfill its task towards this end.

Also we are kindly demanding from this internationally authorised organisation to not spare any world wide endeavours for attracting and rendering economic aid and supplying foodstuffs and other essential goods to the people of Afghanistan, the announcement stresses.

We demand the responsible state and government authorities of Afghanistan, to take additional steps in the light of the prevailing foreign and domestic developments of the country as well as in the light of the recent statements, of the State of Afghanistan, for freeing those political prisoners, who are living in the cells of the jails accused for struggling against unequalities and unjustice emanated for the devastating and fratricidal war, irrespective of their adherence and relations with this or that political parties. The state and governmental authorities are requested to take drastic steps towards the removal of the prevailing crisis of confidence in the country, it says.

We request all national, religious, and spiritual personalities inside and outside the country to help us remove the grief, pain, and suffering of the people in this sensitive phase of our history. If we have committed some mistakes in our regulation, guide us in it's completion, because our goal is to pursue the path of people, it adds. We request, the announcement says, peace-loving force, mojaheed forces stationed in Iran and Pakistan and their field commanders to respond positively to our voice of peace and provide opportunity wherever they want for contacts and talks. We are ready to enter into talks with them in order to jointly seek ways out of the present situation. We demand leaders of the formations centred in the neighbouring countries to help us peacefully solving the Afghan problem, determine place for talks and negotiations, for the wellbeing of people and blossoming of the country, in the near future.

Besides, the announcement adds, we request neighbouring, particularly Muslim countries of Iran and Pakistan, based on the UN Charter and principles of peaceful coexistence help us paving way for talks of the Senate delegation of the RA parliament with the heads of the opposition formations, groups, parties, socio-political and spiritual personalities residing in their countries, as well as arms cut off and arms and prevention of narcotics smuggling. We call upon the Senate of the United States of America, the USSR parliament, the parliaments of neighbouring Islamic countries, the developed countries as well as the parliaments of India, China, France, Germany and Britain that on the one hand to render the necessary political cooperation to us and on the other not to refrain from any economic assistance to the people and our war-stricken country and thus to fulfil their humanistic mission in this connection.

We request from the member countries of Non-aligned Movement and the Organisation of Islamic Conference, especially Saudi Arabia, not to refrain from any cooperation for the ensuring of peace and the welfare of our suffering people. We pay respsct to any peaceful scheme and any force which would be national, popular and independent, it concludes.

Rebels Report More Gains in Gardeyz Battle

BK0110082091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0756 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, Oct 1 (AFP)—Six more Afghan Government posts fell to mojahedin fighters in overnight fighting for the strategic garrison town of Gardeyz, Afghan resistance sources said here Tuesday.

But Kabul's official BAKHTAR news agency said the offensive, launched on Monday, was "rebuffed" by government forces who had inflicted a large number of casualties.

In a dispatch monitored here, BAKHTAR added that government troops had seized hundreds of light weapons, and were "continuing their operation with high combat morale."

Mojahedin sources denied that their attack had been repulsed, and claimed that a second ground attack had been launched overnight Monday on Gardeyz, south of Kabul.

According to resistance news agencies, 24 government posts have been captured so far in the guerrillas' four-pronged attack.

The Afghan News Agency, which is close to the Hezb-e Eslami faction led by Golbuddin Hekmatyar, said the mojahedin were using tanks in their operations for the first time.

The agency spoke of large-scale retaliatory bombing by the government, and claimed that Said Karam, a government base about 20 kilometres (12 miles) from Gardeyz, was badly destroyed in a Scud missile attack.

"Either the missile missed the target or the attack was deliberate," a Hezb-e Eslami spokesman said, adding that the attack triggered a huge fire in the town's ammunition depot.

The mojahedin had distributed letters in Said Karam urging residents to flee, but it was not clear if there were any civilian casualties, the spokesman said.

He speculated that the Scud may have been fired to prevent the capture of the government arsenal in Said Karam in case troops withdrew.

India

Prime Minister on Nuclear Treaty, Pakistan Ties

BK3009145891 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1430 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, has said his government's decision on job reservation is eminently fair and most political parties are more or less in favor of it. In an interview to a New York-based news journal, he said the essence of social justice has been brought out in the government action and as such he does not expect any serious agitation against it. On the economic reforms, Mr. Rao asserted that what has been done is not going to be reversed, but on the other hand, if the package is found inadequate more initiative will be taken.

Asked about the renewed pressure on India to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, he said the treaty is discriminatory and divides the world into nuclear haves and havenots. That is the reason for India not signing the treaty, Mr. Rao added.

In another interview to a Malayalam daily and an English weekly, the prime minister said India can never allow Pakistan to continue fueling terrorism and doing anything which might impinge on the country's security. He said Pakistan's response has not been satisfactory so far to Indian moves to improve relations.

Pawar Warns Pakistan Against Supporting Terrorism

BK0110012891 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0035 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] India has told Pakistan it must stop backing terrorism and subversion in Punjab and Kashmir and normalize relations between the two countries. This was conveyed by the external affairs minister, Mr. Madhavsinh Solanki to his Pakistani counterpart Mr. Mohammad Siddique Kanjoo during the meeting in New York yesterday. Both the countries have agreed to continue the dialogue when the foreign secretaries will meet next month.

Addressing a Sainik Sammelan [military conference] in Belgam, the union defense minister, Mr. Sharad Pawar, has also warned Pakistan against continuing its support to the militants in Punjab and Kashmir. He said India does not want a war with any of her neighbors but wants peace in the region.

The minister disclosed that a new policy on the welfare of defense personnel will be brought out by the end of this year. A committee including representatives of retired and serving officers is presently discussing the proposal. Mr. Pawar also visited the war memorial and paid homage to the war heroes.

Jiang Zemin Appreciates Delhi's Attitude on Ties

BK3009160491 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] The Chinese Communist Party General Secretary, Mr. Jiang Zemin, has said that China appreciates the positive attitude of the present Indian Government toward developing relations between the two countries. Mr. Zemin was talking to a CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] delegation in Beijing today. He said the improvement of bilateral relations is the common desire of both the sides and it will also have a positive impact on peace and stability in Asia and the world as a whole.

The delegation led by Mr. Harkishen Singh Surjeet, had extensive discussions with Chinese leaders on the current international situation and the situation in the region. The CPI-M delegation includes the West Bengal chief minister, Mr. Jyoti Basu, and all members of the politburo.

Indo-U.S. Trade Issue Differences Narrowing

BK0110093291 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] The commerce minister says differences between India and the United States on some of the trade-related issues have narrowed down due to the economic reforms program of the government. Mr. P. Chidambaram was briefing newsmen in New Delhi today after his return from the United States after consultations with senior officials of the Bush Administration, including the trade representative, Miss Carla Hills. Mr. Chidambaram said that for the first time, the Indo-U.S. Business Council adopted a statement calling upon the state administration to immediately withdraw the special 301 investigations, describing them as unnecessary and poorly focused.

In regard to the Indian patent law, the minister pointed out that it compares well with any of the international legislations. But, India has to protect her national concerns by reserving the three areas of food, pharmaceuticals, and chemicals under the act.

Iran

Khamene'i 27 Sep Friday Prayers Broadcast

LD2709165691 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1155 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Second Friday sermon by Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, at Friday prayers in Tehran on 27 September—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted containing Koranic verses] Today, an important issue has an effect on the situation of our society and country. These are two memories [as heard]. First is the remembrance of the years of holy defense in the imposed war, and the second is the remembrance of Unity Week. I will speak on both these issues. [passage omitted]

With regard to the holy defense: After passing through the difficult period of the eight-year war, the points that the people must consider are this: Who caused this war? Why did it start? Why did it not succeed? These are three fundamental points.

One cannot say that the war was caused solely by Iraq. From the start, all the evidence showed arrogance behind Iraq. They helped Iraq militarily, they assisted Iraq's propaganda, they placed the Security Council at the service of the aggressor.

Despite the fact that a war of this magnitude in this sensitive region had broken out, days passed and the United Nations did not show any reaction. This is not normal. When Iraq attacked Kuwait, the Security Council formulated its position after a few hours. When Iraq attacked Iran, the Security Council sat silently and looked on as Iraqi tanks were advancing. After they had occupied thousands of kilometers, the Security Council said one word. And that was no condemnation of aggression. It did not admonish Iraq for its aggression; it did not admonish Iraq for causing the war. It told both sides: Stop the war, let us have a cease-fire. This means establishing Iraq in our occupied territories. Of course, this was unacceptable. We rejected that resolution. To the bitter end, the Security Council never took a really justifiable position with regard to the war because it was in the hands of great powers that backed Iraq—until Resolution 598 right at the end, which was passed through immense efforts from all sides ...[sentence unfinished] They passed that resolution after all that.

The East and West were right behind Iraq. Practically all of Europe assisted Iraq. During the war, we used to guess this through evidence. However, during the last year or two, absolute proof has come to light. One by one, they admitted. All the documents and deals were revealed: the assistance from the United States, the help from NATO, the help from the Soviet Union which was obvious from the first day. The Eastern Bloc, these very same Eastern European countries that are embroiled in disasters today, gave the greatest service during the war to the Iraqi regime. The same goes for regional reaction.

Therefore, the Iraqi regime did not create the war on its own. The Iraqi regime was a tool, the war was created by the world of arrogance and its disciples. Today, this is clear, it does not need much discussion.

As to why they brought about the war; this also is clear. They brought about the war in an effort to annihilate the Islamic system, or else force it to surrender—for them it made no difference. They wanted the Islamic Republic to fall under the pressure of occupation and the problems of war. If it did not fall, then they were hoping that the Iranian nation and its grand imam would be forced perhaps to surrender to their enemies and stretch out their hands to them, saying: All right, we give up, please don't let Iraq go on relentlessly attacking us. That surrender has been the fate of all, or most, of the countries which faced similar calamities; they have turned to a big power and stretched out their hands. That was their objective and there is no doubt here; they never had the pleasure of seeing their wish fulfilled, however.

If Iran had yielded to America, then the war would have ended sooner. But then the calamity of capitulating to American domination is a hundred times worse than the calamities of war. The calamity of foreign domination is heavier and harder for a nation to bear than the calamity and damages imposed by the war.

Do you see how they are treating the Iraqi regime today? As soon as arrogance establishes its dominance and forces you to surrender then there are no bounds to its demands. Arrogance stops and observes its limit when it faces resistance on the part of other nations. Any nation indicating the slightest sign of surrender to arrogance stands to lose—and it will be a very heavy loss.

Their aim was to force the Islamic Republic to surrender but they failed. After eight years of war we do not have to take an oath and swear that we won the war. What is victory in war, after all? An enemy with all that might and with all those financial resources attacks a nation; then the nation stands against it for eight years. Now if after eight years everything is the same as it was on the first day of the war—not an inch of the nation's territory is occupied by the others, nor has the nation accepted the slightest imposition from the enemy—then is that not victory for the nation?

Our nation—with its youth and its combatants, with its Army, Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] and popular mobilization [basij] forces, with its brave tribal people, with its people from all walks of life, with self-sacrificing families, with intelligent and aware men and women, blessed with the courage and faith of its great leader and his unique reliance on God—succeeded in standing up to America, Europe, the Soviet Union of those days, and the empires of East and West. After eight years it forced all of them to concede [crowd chants in approval] to the victory of the Iranian nation and to their own defeat.

Now for the third question. What brought the victory about? Dear brethren and sisters across the country! What brought your victory about? Was it nothing but your faith, your reliance on God, your will to stand up against God's foes, your unity of expression which they could not break with any means, the heroic self-sacrifice of your young—those who in full bloom of youth forsook worldy pleasures and did not submit to temptation—and the parents who gave up their young and did not surrender to the temptation of parental love, and your indifference to worldly goods and looking to the high

objective, i.e. the glory of Islam and the Muslims. Did the victory of the Iranian nation have any other factor beside these?

If—at the time when the enemy attacked from all directions—Iran had turned to the East, or the West and America, to Europe, to Soviet Union, would it still have been victorious? They would not have let it become victorious. The war would have ended, but an end without victory, an end without honor. World arrogance would have resumed their domination over this nation. You dear brothers should know that 13 years have gone by since the victory of the revolution and the uprooting of the enemy's domination over this country, but America and world arrogance still seek to restore their dominanation over this nation in any possible form. [crowd chants in support]

You should know that the enemies of God are unhappy that you have turned to Islam and they are unhappy that you are faithful. You should know they are unhappy about your unity of expression. The enemy is unhappy about your support for the officials of the country, that you are behind the Koran and Islam, that you move behind the banner of religion. The enemy does not like that kind of life. You have disrupted the culture of arrogance in the world, and arrogance's work has become more difficult.

The new world order that arrogance has recently brought up is an issue that contains very treacherous and dangerous intentions. What does the new world order mean? It means an end to the world's bipolar system. Yes that ended. That means an end to disputes between the East and the West. Yes, those also ended. But what should the outcome of the termination of disputes between the East and the West be? Does that [new world order] mean America's absolute and daily increasing pressure on weak nations? Is that the meaning of the new world order? Does that mean that supporters of Islam and supporters of freedom should have no right to breath? Does that mean that the issue of Palestine should cost the submission of Palestine and the surrender of the Palestinians? Is that what the new world order means?

That is what America wants. The Islamic nation will not surrender to the will of America and arrogance because of its awakening as the result of your revolution and your steadfastness during the war.

The war, of course, caused much damage. Also the enemy was, and still is, aware that the damage caused by the war does not happen merely at the moment when a gun is fired, or a bomb is dropped, or a missile impacts. That causes destruction. The effects of those damages continue until the destruction is repaired. We went through eight years of war. You the nation, all of you, should support the government for many long years, and the government officials should use all their capabilities, efforts, and all their sincerity, spending the country's national wealth to be able to compensate for this damage and destruction.

The destruction from the war cannot be repaired very easily. Do you know how much damage was inflicted on Europe, Japan, and all other countries during the World War II? Do you know how many years it took for those countries to relieve themselves of that burden? That was also with American wealth and the support of other countries. Now we want to stand on our own feet. We want to develop the country ourselves. We want to use our own efforts, our own initiatives, our own wealth to develop this country. The country's caring officials are making efforts, and with correct planning and intentions, and with people's support, God willing, they will be able to compensate for the destruction. That will take time. The war caused much hardship. Hardship is also going to continue during the reconstruction period. That is also a part of the hardship caused by the war. Your struggle today is for reconstruction and for being steadfast and making efforts to maintain your unity.

Here I arrive at my next point which concerns Unity Week. Unity among the Islamic Ummah. The enemy seeks discord among Islamic sects. Particularly since the victory of the Islamic revolution, the enemy has always sought to create discord between revolutionary and Islamic Iran and the other nations. They wish it to be said in the world of Islam that they [Iranians] are Shiite and their revolution is a Shiite one and has nothing to do with us Sunnis. They want arrogance to bring about such an idea in the world. From the outset of the revolution the Iranian nation has said: Yes, we are Shiites and followers of the Prophet, but this is an Islamic revolution and based on the Koran, monotheism, pure and noble Islam, and unity and fraternity among all Muslims. Our nation said this right from the start and our Imam [Khomeyni] shouted it, too.

Do not let this unity be undermined. Other Muslim nations in other countries should not let mercenary writers and penmen write or say anything against, or slander the Iranian nation, the Islamic revolution, and the Islamic Republic. They are doing so now.

Our own writers should be aware and not give the enemy the opportunity to widen this rift. Radio, television, the media, the newspapers, books, writers, and everybody else should beware and not give any excuse to the enemy. We have said that our Muslim brothers, whereever they are and whatever their sect, should be brothers and fight for Islam, monotheism, and the Koran against arrogance, which is opposed to Islam, monotheism, and the Koran. [crowd chants in support]

One of the most bitter issues of our time is that of Palestine. They intend to trade off and sell out Palestine. This so-called international conference is in fact a conference in the particular interests of the Zionists. But the Muslims, and certain Palestinian leaders, have shown so much weakness that the Zionists are playing hard to get now. They say: We will take part in the conference on this or that condition. What conditions? Zealous Muslims could not take part in a conference in which the Palestinian nation and country are to be sold to the

enemy. Zealous Muslims cannot remain silent. [Passage omitted containing Koranic verses]

IRGC Official Addresses Defense Conference

LD2909125191 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] The third conference on examination of the Holy Defense, entitled: Investigation of the Defense Industries and the Role of Universities, was inaugurated this morning at the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] Imam Husayn University in Tehran, attended by a group of military lecturers and experts.

This conference, opened by a speech by IRGC Deputy Commander-in-Chief Brigadier Rahim Safavi, will investigate the defense industries' requirements and priorities and identify their problems, and also investigate ways to utilize the experiences of eight years of holy defense and reliance on the role of universities in improving defense industries.

In his speech, Mr. Safavi termed the role of the defense industries a determining factor in promoting the political objectives, after the role of the political leadership and faith. Referring to the presence of America in the region as a serious threat, he said: Our armed forces enjoy a high military power and, with all their might, are standing fast against infidelity.

Logistics Minister Speaks

LD3009164191 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1530 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] The conference on the appraisal of holy defense, held to recognize the path of defense industries and the role of the country's universities during the imposed war, ended today.

The last day of the conference was attended by several commanders and officials from the Guards Corps as well as university researchers. Speaking to the conference, Akbar Torkan, minister of defense and armed forces logistics, called the merger of the Guard Corps and defense ministries as a positive step. He said this was an important move which placed the combined experience and expertise of the two ministries in a new organizational structure, so existing facilities can be used.

He called on university and scientific centers to cooperate with the country's military and defense industries and to expand their research in these areas.

702 Prisoners Receive Reduced Sentences, Pardons

LD2709170491 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1530 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Excerpt] On the occasion of the anniversary of the glorious birth of His Holiness the Seal of the Prophets and the savior of humanity Muhammad Bin 'Abdullah—God's peace and benedictions be upon him and his companions—and that of Imam Ja'far al-Sadeq—peace be upon him—His Excellency Ayatollah Khamene'i, the leader of the Islamic revolution, pardoned or reduced the sentences of 702 prisoners convicted by the Islamic, public, military, and special clerical courts. [passage omitted]

Oil Minister Assails EC Tax, Warns of Reaction

LD2809135491 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The Iranian oil minister has stressed the importance of coordination among oil-producing OPEC members and of Saudi Arabia's further cooperation in the forthcoming OPEC session, in order to prevent economic pressure, resulting from a reduction in oil prices, on the oil-producing countries.

He pointed to the intention of the EC member countries to implement a five-year program, imposing a $2 tax on each barrel of oil each year, and to increase that by $10 at the end of that program. He said: The EC member countries are trying to impose the cost of fighting environmental pollution on the oil-exporting countries alone. He stressed that this move will produce an OPEC reaction.

Oil Minister on OPEC Production, Prices

LD2809180791 Tehran IRNA in English 1548 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 28, IRNA—Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh predicted here today that oil prices will appreciate in the coming winter to hit dlrs [dollars] 21.00 per barrel. He said for the first time ever the organization's production is below the demand for its oil which means the market is stable, and will remain so for sometime in the future.

OPEC's price monitoring committee recently set the organization's ceiling for the fourth quarter of the year at 23,650,000 bpd [barrels per day] against a previous 22,300,000 bpd.

Despite the increase in OPEC's production crude oil prices have gone up worldwide: on Saturday afternoon Brent crude oil sold at dlrs 21.50 for immediate delivery, up by 55 cents as compared to its price thursday.

The Iranian oil minister said OPEC is now producing at its optimum and that it will be unable to increase production in response to demands in the near future. He said in the event of a pressing demand the organization would have to fall back on its strategic reserves.

Aqazadeh said during a recent meeting of OPEC's price monitoring committee the committee had insisted that member states must observe the dictates of the July 1990 meeting of the committee which defines quotas and production control devices.

Iraq and Kuwait must now comply with OPEC's quota system and may not exceed their production in August. Kuwait now reportedly produces about 300,000 bpd and Iraq between 600 and 700 thousand bpd.

Aqazadeh said OPEC oil ministers had also reached an interim agreement on the need for controlling the global environment and for adopting devices for checking the steady thinning of the ozone layer, and for preventing the aggrevation of bio-environmental conditions and for adopting checks against the rising global temperature. He said thus far the heads of 70 nations including those of the seven industrialized states had declared their willingness to contribute to the project.

The Iranian oil minister said the environment conference which is to be held in collaboration with the United Nations in November intends to levy import taxes on oil which, he said, will adversely affect oil producers. He said pollution is not caused only by oil but more widely by coal, atomic waste, and the waste of large factories.

OPEC, according to Aqazadeh, has opposed the levying of tax on oil importations, and member states of the organization might fight back fiercely if the scheme is to be pushed forward by other states.

Aqazadeh added that the organization's price monitoring committee had decided to nominate a committee for fighting pollution in Kuwait and in the Persian Gulf relying on OPEC's own fund.

Embassy 'Sources' Say Yang Shangkun To Visit

OW0110110691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1039 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 1 KYODO—Chinese President Yang Shangkun may pay an official visit to Iran in late October or early November, according to Chinese Embassy sources in Tehran. The visit would be the first by a Chinese president to Iran since the Iranian revolution in 1979.

China maintained its ties with Iran when it was internationally isolated following the revolution and was a major supplier of weapons to Iran during the Iran-Iraq war.

Yang is expected to meet Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani for talks on improving economic relations and on the international situation since the demise of communism in the Soviet Union.

Chinese Premier Li Peng visited Iran in July for talks with Hashemi-Rafsanjani and reportedly agreed to take a negative stand on United States President George Bush's proposed "new world order."

Ahmad Khomeyni Comments on Domestic Issues

LD2909124291 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Administrators, lecturers, and students of Amir Kabir Industrial University, the country's civil aviation higher education complex; and the head, deputies, and directors of the country's prison organization met Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni in Hoseyniyeh Jamaran [prayer house near the Khomeyni residence] before noon today.

In the meeting, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni delivered a speech in which he referred to the important role played by academics in guiding society. He said: University students and seminarians, as the standard bearers and vanguards of the entire Islamic ummah [community], must continue to be the ones who refine the exalted values of pure Islam. Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni also spoke of the danger of cultural degradation and of the need for presenting models of Islamic culture. He explained: If we today, as the followers of an ideology, are unable to establish suitable cultural values in keeping with the values and exalted commands of pure Islam in this limited geographical area of the planet, society will gradually move toward irreligion and abandonment.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni then spoke of the fatwas [religious edicts] of His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, may he be admitted to paradise, and said: Today, seminaries and universities must conduct their studies and research on the basis of the viewpoints and stances of the late imam. Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni stressed the importance of defending legitimate freedoms within Islamic boundaries and of preventing the spread of self-censorship in universities. He said: University students must play an active part in identifying society's problems and concerns. Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni then addressed the officials of the country's prison organization and, describing prisons as centers for the rehabilitation and education of prisoners and offenders, he noted: In the Islamic system, prison is a place for training and education, and we must try to attain a suitable level from the point of view of educational and welfare facilities in prisons.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni concluded by referring to international and regional issues. In connection with the Middle East peace conference, he said: The Middle East peace conference is a blatant betrayal of the ideals of Palestine and of all Muslims, and we will strictly reject any agreement which leads to the legitimacy of the usurper Zionist regime.

Ground Forces Plans To Convert Iraqi Tanks

LD2909054591 Tehran IRNA in English 1304 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 28, IRNA—A ground force commander of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Saturday said that hundreds of Iraqi tanks seized in the course of the 1980-88 Iraq-Iran conflict would undergo systematic changes and would be equipped with modern parts by IRGC forces.

Brigadier General Mostafa Izadi, speaking on the occasion of the week-long "sacred defence" anniversary which started last Sunday, added that as part of the program operational system in 50 Iraqi-seized tanks had been changed.

General Izadi stressed that eight years of sacred defence had turned the IRGC forces to "one of the most powerful ground forces in the region." Moreover, he added, IRGC forces were involved in some 15 renovation and rehabilitation plans for the war-stricken areas.

Pakistan

IJI Leaders on Kashmir, Afghan, Nuclear Issues

BK3009165191 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] A constitutional amendment will be presented in the parliament soon to establish the supremacy of Islam in all walks of life in the country. The Islami Jamhoori Ittehad [IJI] government will also review the recommendations made earlier by the Islamic Ideology Council in this regard. This was stated by Asif Fasihuddin Wardak, additional secretary general of IJI, while briefing newsmen on the meeting of leaders of the IJI parties in Lahore today. The meeting was held last night with Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif in the chair. Wardak said that the constitutional amendment will initially be discussed at the meeting of the IJI party leaders which will be held within a month. Later, it will be reviewed by the IJI parliamentary parties in the National Assembly and the Senate and then will be presented to the National Assembly and the Senate for approval. He said that the summit meeting of the constituent parties of the IJI has also formed a committee which will be headed by Syed Fakhr Imam, the federal minister and representative of the Independent Group. The committee will comprise members of the IJI parties. They are: Qazi Abdul Latif, Sahabzada Fazlul Qadir, Syed Ghaus Ali Shah, Liaqat Baloch, Maulana Muinuddin Latwi, S.M. Zafar, and Iqbal Ahmed Khan.

Wardak said that all constituent parties of the IJI will submit their recommendations on major national issues and the government will formulate its policies in the light of these recommendations. The parties have been asked to formulate recommendations on reforming the police system so as to improve the law and order situation in the country, establish a system based on equality and justice and to overcome the problem of unemployment. He said that the IJI government will devise its strategy to tackle these issues in the light of their recommendations.

Agha Murtaza Poya and his party, Hezbe Jihad, have been expelled from the IJI for criticizing the IJI party leaders. The meeting unanimously agreed not to accept the resignation of Professor Ghafoor Ahmed from the post of IJI secretary general.

The IJI has condemned the brutal atrocities by India on peaceful Muslims in the occupied Kashmir and said that India has trampled all norms of basic human rights. The IJI leaders at their meeting in Lahore approved six separate resolutions on the situation in Kashmir, Afghanistan, nuclear energy, IJI, cooperative organizations, and the white paper issued by the Pakistan Democratic Alliance [PDA].

In a resolution, the meeting called upon the United Nations to take serious note of the situation in the occupied Kashmir and to implement its resolutions on the issue. The meeting said that a peaceful resolution of the Kashmir issue will pave the way for a durable peace in South Asia and enable the countries of the region to utilize their resources for the welfare of their people. The meeting expressed satisfaction over the stand taken by the Pakistani government on the Kashmir issue and demonstrating courage for a peaceful solution of the problem in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions which guarantee the self-determination rights of the Kashmiri people.

The IJI supported the realistic stand adopted by the government of Pakistan for a peaceful resolution of the Afghanistan problem and establishment of a nonaligned and representative government in that country and said that this will pave the way for the return of Afghan refugees to their homeland. The meeting expressed the view that the five-point formula proposed by the UN secretary general is a right step toward a peaceful solution of the Afghan problem. The meeting also felt that an early settlement of the Afghan issue will help in establishing meaningful and multifaceted cooperation and ties with Central Asian Islamic Republics.

The IJI expressed regret over irresponsible statements by various opposition leaders on the sensitive issue of nuclear energy which is much needed for the rapid development of the country. The resolution appreciated the Pakistani Government's stand not to come under pressure to deter it from pursuing its peaceful nuclear program. The meeting also commended Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's proposal for a joint conference of the United States, Soviet Union, China, India, and Pakistan to check nuclear proliferation for purposes other than peaceful use. The meeting expressed concern over the double-standard of the United States. On the one hand, the United States has stopped aid to Pakistan, while on

the other, it exempted India from the Pressler Amendment for providing it with economic and military assistance.

Through another resolution, the IJI meeting condemned the so-called white paper issued by the PDA for distortion of facts. The resolution said that the defeated elements have been trying to hamper the political and democratic process in the country. The Election Commission has taken serious note of the white paper and described it as a pack of lies. The meeting said that the white paper is a crude joke with the electorates and an insult to the Constitution and parliament. The meeting called upon all sections of the people to forge unity among their ranks and to foil the designs of the elements bent upon disrupting the political and democratic process in the country.

The meeting, through yet another resolution, expressed satisfaction over the serious note taken by the federal and provincial governments of the scandal of certain cooperative finance companies and the steps taken by them to ensure that small account holders get back their deposits.

Afghan Mojahedin Leaders To Visit UN, Moscow

BK2809163991 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif had an intensive meeting in Lahore this morning with various Afghan mojahedin leaders and exchanged views with them on the present situation in Afghanistan and the need of an early political settlement of the issue. Briefing newsmen after the meeting, Foreign Secretary Shaharyar Khan said Pakistan extends full support to the principled struggle of the Afghan mojahedin. The prime minister urged the mojahedin to close their ranks over minor differences and demonstrate to the world and to the Afghan people their united front that could usher in peace for Afghanistan and pave the way for an honorable return of Afghan refugees to their motherland. The Afghan leaders representing all mojahedin groups highly appreciated Pakistan's support of their cause. The foreign secretary said a representative mojahedin delegation headed by Pir Sebghatullah Mojaddedi will go to New York in connection with the UN General Assembly session and will hold meetings with foreign ministers of the countries attending the session. Another mojahedin delegation will go to Moscow. Among the Afghan mojahedin leaders who attended the meeting included Pir Sebghatullah Mojaddedi, Professor Abdul Rasool Sayyaf, Mawlawi Nabi Muhammadi, Pir Sayyed Ahmad Gaylani, Professor Rabbani, Mawlawi Yunis Khalis, (Ayatollah Mohseni), Engineer (Qutbuddin), Mawlawi (Qazi Adul) and Nasirollah Mansur. Foreign Secretary Shaharyar Khan and Army Chief General Asif Nawaz were also present on the occasion.

Sharif Welcomes Bush Move on Nuclear Weapons

BK2909045491 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif has welcomed President Bush's announcement to make a cut in American nuclear weapons. In a message to the American President, he expressed hope that this step will begin a new era of world peace. The prime minister appealed to other nuclear powers to follow America in order to make the world free from destructive weapons. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif called on Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao to cooperate with Pakistan in order to promote peace in the region. He said we should work together to prevent the profileration of nuclear weapons and to solve problems peacefully. The prime minister also emphasized that President Bush should play a role in making South Asia free of nuclear weapons.

Commentary on Need for Better Soviet Ties

BK2809151791 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 27 Sep 91

[A.B.S. Jafri commentary]

[Text] It has to be admitted that the history of relations between Pakistan and the Soviet Union has been rather uneven. There have been ups as well as downs. But any fair-minded student of this delicate subject would not fail to appreciate that the long drawn up cold war between the East and West immediately following the end of second world war confronted the smaller states with dilemmas too big for them to sort out. But with all that, there had never been any question about the real and genuine intentions of Pakistan in respect of the Soviet Union.

Pakistan has always sought the best of relations with all countries of the world—near or distant. What (?is clear) to the world and the Soviet Union is Pakistan has always striven to have the best possible relations. This consistent effort is once again highlighted by the meeting between Pakistan's secretary general of the ministry of foreign affairs, Mr. Akram Zaki, and the Soviet foreign minister, Mr. Boris Pankin, at the United Nations headquarters yesterday. Reports from the United Nations say that Mr. Zaki and Mr. Pankin had, what looks like, a comprehensive survey of the world's political situation and relations between Pakistan and the Soviet Union in the contemporary context. As neighbors, Pakistan and the Soviet Union have so much to talk about, so much to sort out, and so much to be interested in and concerned about.

The Soviet Union and Pakistan have a number of subjects on which a joint and friendly approach is very urgently needed. Topping the list of such subjects is of course the still unresolved issue of the future of Afghanistan. Well, [words indistinct] when a peculiar state of circumstances had conspired to throw Pakistan and the Soviet Union on what might have been tantamount to be

opposite sides. It is happily no longer so. The qualitative changes in the political situation of the world following the detente between the cold war antagonists has had the salutary effect upon the climate in our region. Steadily [words indistinct] slowly, the positions of the Soviet Union and Pakistan are shedding the element of disparity and nearing a point of coincidence.

During their elementary fruitful talks, Mr. Akram Zaki and Mr. Pankin had occasion to go over the entire area of Pakistan-Soviet relations. At the conclusion of the meeting, Mr. Pankin told reporters that he was fully satisfied. It looks safe enough to infer that the Zaki-Pankin dialogue helped the two countries to (?feel) that there is a reason for concern over the state of Afghan problem and to appreciate them. Such improvement in understanding is what a final settlement of the Afghan issue can be built upon.

Let us [word indistinct] take the opportunity to assure Mr. Pankin and through him the Soviet leadership that Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's government was determined to pursue the paths that lead to quick and steady improvement and enlargement of relations between the Soviet Union and Pakistan. There is every good reason in the world for the two neighbors to sincerely work toward that end. Not only geography makes Pakistan and the Soviet Union two nations who must be in the best of terms, history too enjoins upon these two to be in as close proximity as human goodwill and ingenuity can contrive.

A very significant segment of the Soviet Union is composed of elements with the most intimate and utterly indissoluble ties with the people of Pakistan. The Soviet Union's republics in Central Asia with predominantly Muslim population have a natural affinity with the Pakistani people. The government and people of Pakistan are naturally drawn toward the Central Asian republics and wish to forge special relations with them. But, of course, within the framework of the Soviet constitution and general character of the Soviet states. Pakistan has already approached Moscow to initiate this process by establishing an air link with Tashkent by floating a civil air service between Islamabad and Tashkent. Pakistan would also wish to open a consulate general in the Central Asian city of Tashkent. To begin with, this would be more or less the combined feature that could promise to open the doors of already (?growing) socio-economic opportunities of mutually beneficial cooperation extending from Tashkent to all parts of the Soviet Union.

It appears that Pakistan and the Soviet Union are poised to inaugurate a new and bright chapter in their bilateral relations. And this is something to feel (?happy) about.

Sri Lanka

LTTE Ally's Parliamentary Return Decried

BK0110090791 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] In Sri Lanka, major opposition parties have expressed concern over the reentry of EROS [Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students], an LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] ally, to parliament. The leader of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, Mrs. Srimavo Bandaranaike, alleged that the reentry was to save the government in view of the impeachment motion and said it will lead to several problems. A spokesman of the EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front] said the move is an attempt to divide the Tamils in Sri Lanka. Six of the 13 members of the EROS, who had resigned their parliament seats in July last year protesting against the government failure to declare a cease-fire in the northeast, have been renominated recently.

Meanwhile, three soldiers were killed and six others injured in a land mine explosion in Trincomalee yesterday. Official sources in Colombo said the mishap occurred when LTTE militants exploded a Claymore mine below an armored vehicle carrying the soldiers.

LTTE Members Reportedly Filling Parliament

BK2909094491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0920 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Colombo, Sept 29 (AFP)—Sri Lanka's dominant Tamil Tiger guerrillas were sending its proxies to fill parliamentary seats vacated by its only Tamil ally, rival groups here charged Sunday.

At least four Tamil political parties Sunday charged that six legislators nominated by the Elavar Democratic Front (EDF) were in fact members of the rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) battling government forces.

The Front quit its 13 seats in parliament in June last year protesting Colombo's drive against the LTTE and later disbanded to merge with the Tiger guerrillas, according to Tamil sources here. However, two Front legislators who refused to join the LTTE retook their seats. A spokesman for one of them said the six new MPs were in fact LTTE men. Five more are to be named when parliament sits October 8.

N. Srikanth, political advisor to the rival Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO), said the LTTE was entering the legislature through the backdoor following intense pressure against them in neighbouring India.

Tigers have emerged as the prime suspects in the assassination of former Indian premier Rajiv Gandhi drawing a major crackdown against it in the neighbouring south Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

The pro-Colombo TELO said the LTTE would support the government to block a no-confidence move against it in parliament to win concessions and buy time to regroup and relaunch fresh attacks against security forces.

Another pro-government Tamil group, the Eelam People's Democratic Party (EPDP) said the Tigers were in a position of weakness and their coming to parliament was not a genuine effort to resolve the island's ethnic issue.

The support of the 13 Front members would be crucial in a close no-confidence vote in the 225-member assembly where President Ranasinghe Premadasa's party has already lost 11 of its 125 members to the opposition.

The anti-government Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) said they feared the LTTE would resume attacks against rival Tamils in Colombo taking cover under parliamentary privileges of the new MPs.

EPRLF MP Suresh Premachandran said he believed the government had done a deal with the LTTE to stop operations against the Tigers in return for their votes in parliament.

In a related development, the Sri Lankan military has been reporting that there have been no hostilities with Tigers in the island's embattled northeast for the past three days.

The military has denied that there was a truce with Tigers who abruptly broke off an earlier round of peace talks with Colombo leading to renewed bloodletting in June last year.

The Colombo government and President Prenmadasa himself have been accused by the opposition and ruling party dissidents of arming the LTTE during the 14-months of failed peace talks last year.

LTTE Makes Conditional Offer for Talks

BK2909144491 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] In Sri Lanka, LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] is reported to have made a conditional offer for talks with the minister for tourism and rural industries, Mr. S. Thondaman. The government-owned SUNDAY OBSERVER quoted the political adviser of LTTE, Mr. Balasingham, having laid down three conditions for the talks. These include recognition of self-rule of the Tamils and their separate personality. And LTTE also wanted the government to recognize the homeland of the Tamils before holding any talks. The government's reaction is not yet known.

Meanwhile, six members of the Eelam Democratic Front, a political wing of EROS [Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students], an ally of LTTE, has reentered the Sri Lankan Parliament following the nomination by the parliamentary (?speaker).

Minister Admits Supplying Arms to LTTE

BK3009151291 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1430 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] The senior Sri Lankan minister has said that the govenment did supply arms to the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam]. Addressing members of the ruling United [National] Party in Colombo yesterday, the industries minister, R. Wickremasinghe, said this was done to curb insurgency by Sinhalease radicals and prevent possible Sinhala-Tamil backlash.

Security Forces Destroy Terrorist Bases

BK2809113091 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Security forces have destroyed terrorist bases in the Mullaitivu District, including the Michael base captured from the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam]. Measures are now being taken to prevent future infiltration by the terrorists. Security forces are consolidating in the area around the terrorist bases, as their objective has been achieved with the capture of the bases.

Government troops captured the Michael base on Wednesday after heavy terrorist resistance. It was reported to be one of the biggest battles the force had ever fought. The earlier was the offensive launched to capture the Elephant Pass camp. Military sources say that what the security forces had overturned was a huge complex of buildings that could accommodate more than 500 cadres. Tiger casualties in this battle are thought to be very heavy. A spokesman said that the forces did not know the exact number of casualties. Camp Michael fell into the hands of the forces in an operation code named (Akhnu Pahara).